

ESSENTIAL

MARBELLA | MÁLAGA | SPAIN

Nº 305 — APRIL 2025



MAGICAL
MALDIVES

NEW BENTLEY
CONTINENTAL GT SPEED

THE KIMPTON
LOS MONTEROS

WONDERFUL
VITAE VILLAS

SUSANA HIDALGO
THE ART OF STYLE

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AT EASTER



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ENGEL & VÖLKERS

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Sierra Blanca: Designed by the esteemed architect Ismael Mérida, Villa Milas stands as a beacon of refined living. A double-sided marble staircase and airy entrance hall set the stage for panoramic sea views and true elegance. Indoors, a semi-Olympic saltwater heated pool, Techno Gym, Hammam, and cinema epitomise modern indulgence. 12-car garage and a separate two-bedroom apartment. 8 beds, 10 baths, built area approx. 2,200 m², plot approx. 2,390 m². Price: €11,950,000, E&V ID: W-02XRKS



Los Monteros: Fantastic modern villa in Santa Clara Golf with sea views within an exclusive gated community. 4 beds, 3 baths, built area approx. 428 m², plot approx. 785 m². Price: €2,390,000, E&V ID: W-02YAH6



Los Flamingos Golf: Modern villa with spectacular views from every corner right on the golf course. 9 beds, 10 baths, built area approx. 1,000 m², plot approx. 1,968 m². Price: 5,980,000 €, E&V ID W-02WPEB



Altos de los Monteros: Spacious penthouse offering comfort, style, and breathtaking panoramic sea views. 3 beds, 3 baths, interior approx. 187 m², terrace approx. 121 m². Price €697,000, E&V ID W-02WECT



Sierra Blanca: Exclusive penthouse with breathtaking Mediterranean views and private pool in a prestigious gated community. 4 beds, 3 baths, interior approx. 467 m², terrace approx. 194 m². Price €3,300,000, E&V ID W-02YZ64



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Los Flamingos Golf: A striking masterpiece in Los Flamingos Golf Resort, this spectacular residence captures panoramic sea views and an innovative design. Expansive terraces, an infinity pool, and refined interiors set the tone for serene living. Advanced home technology, a cinema lounge, and seamless indoor-outdoor spaces elevate the experience. A testament to elegant Mediterranean life. 6 beds, 7 baths, built area approx. 750 m², plot approx. 1,415 m². Price: €5,900,000, E&V ID: W-02XM69



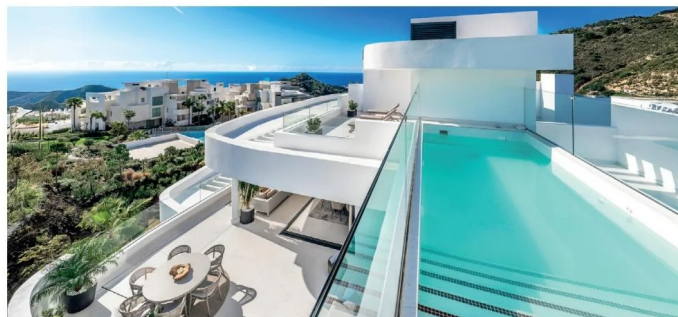
Guadalmira - Beachside: Villa Travertino, a luxury Andalusian-style masterpiece just 100 metres from the beach. 8 beds, 10 baths, built area approx. 2,119 m², plot approx. 4,900 m². Price €9,700,000, E&V ID W-02E8GL



La Zagaleta: Magnificent villa elegantly designed with spacious living areas, luxurious home features and cutting-edge amenities. 6 beds, 8 baths, built area approx. 1,315 m², plot approx. 5,394 m². Price: €11,600,000, E&V ID: W-02Y7AK



La Quinta: Exceptional penthouse with unrivalled views and private pool within the exclusive gated community of The View. 3 beds, 3 baths, living area approx. 218 m², terraces approx. 281 m². Price €2,995,000, E&V ID W-02WBRF



Palo Alto: Luxury penthouse with stunning sea views in an esteemed resort-style community with high-end amenities. 3 beds, 3 baths, interior approx. 147 m², terrace approx. 283 m². Price €2,495,000, E&V ID W-02YOKC



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publisher



IAIN BLACKWELL
PUBLISHER

APPRECIATE EVERY MOMENT

Indulge yourself in the magical Maldives where tropical islands are caressed by the warm waters of the Indian Ocean. Experience the elegance conveyed by the new Bentley Continental GT Speed. Explore the ever expanding world of ceramics.

We bring you an issue packed with essential reading, including ideas on what to do here on the Coast during the Easter break.

Marvel at masterful photography by Wayne Chasan, check out stunning couture from Susana Hidalgo, and view some prestigious property projects conceived by Pierre Doyle.

We interview Jack Black, coinciding

with his role in this month's cinematic release of *A Minecraft Movie*, and introduce Ana Maria Iacobescu with her story of triumph over trauma.

Discover how Vitae Villas are raising the bar for sumptuous villa design in the luxurious enclave of Monte Mayor, and tour an outstanding estate with coastal-wide views overlooking Marbella.

Reserve a table at the beautifully restored El Lago, meet executive chef Txema Palacio from Grupo Besaya, and support children's health with this month's ChefsForChildren Gala.

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“WHEN WE STRIVE
TO BECOME BETTER
THAN WE ARE,
EVERYTHING
AROUND US BECOMES
BETTER TOO”

Paul Coelho



80



94



166



6 SALES CLOSED in 2024

Proven Success in **LA ZAGALETA**

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VILLAS RESERVED in 2025

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Experts in La Zagaleta

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Diana Morales
Properties





Issue 305 – April 2025

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THE SKY

Marbella

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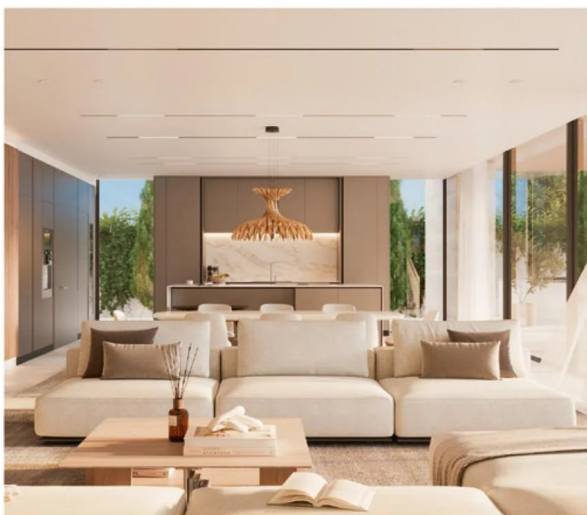
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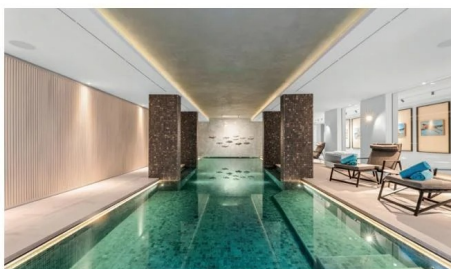


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Cascada de Camoján

AN EXTRAORDINARY VILLA: A MAURICE SAINZ MASTERPIECE OF CONTEMPORARY LUXURY WITH PANORAMIC SEA VIEWS

Nestled within Marbella's exclusive Cascada de Camoján, this extraordinary villa blends contemporary sophistication with innovation. This Maurice Sainz masterpiece, set within immaculate gardens, spans three magnificent levels. It features panoramic sea views, heated indoor and outdoor pools, luxurious living spaces, and state-of-the-art technology. This eco-conscious sanctuary offers five beautifully appointed suites, a five-car garage, a cinema, impressive spa facilities, and 24-hour security—the epitome of refined Mediterranean living for the most discerning connoisseur.



Property Information

5 beds | 8 baths

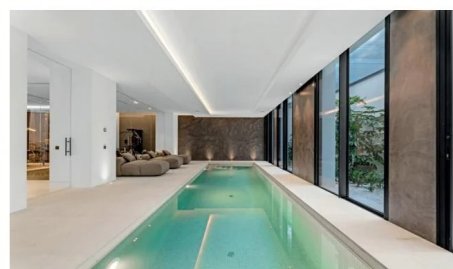
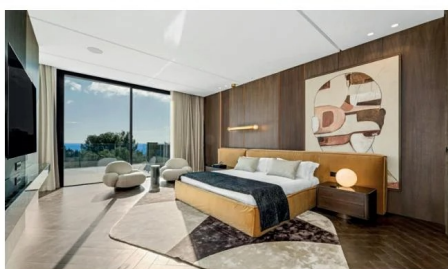
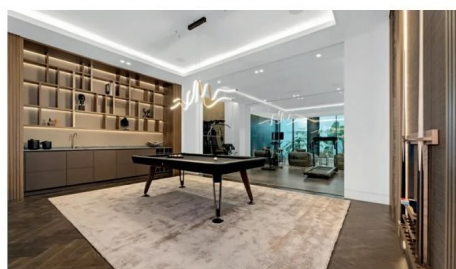
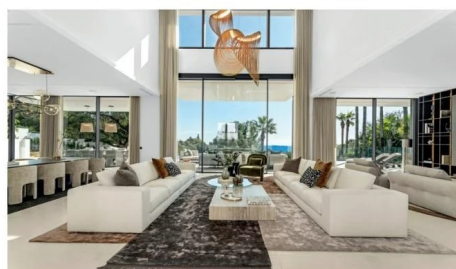
Built approx. 1,435 m² | Plot approx. 2,904 m²

E&V ID W-02MLLF • PRICE €14,950,000

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Cascada de Camoján

VILLA ALLURE - THE DEFINITION OF LUXURY LIVING IN THE BEST LOCATION IN MARBELLA



Property Information

6 beds | 8 baths

Built approx. 1,347 m² | Plot approx. 2,000 m²

E&V ID W-02P6JY • PRICE €16,600,000

Acclaimed architect Miguel Tobal has designed a true masterwork of sophistication. Allure is a testament to impeccable craftsmanship, where every element has been thoughtfully curated. It offers an unrivalled living experience, seamlessly blending a prime location with spectacular views, magnificent architecture, and bespoke interior design. Boasting expansive spaces, utmost privacy, unparalleled quality, and top-tier resort amenities, including a gym, games room, bar, sauna, hammam, indoor pool, lift, 8-car garage, and high-end home automation. Allure embodies the pinnacle of luxury living in every sense.

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Marvel at the beauty and serenity of the magical Maldives. Check in to the new Kimpton Los Monteros and check out stunning photography from Wayne Chasan. Be impressed by the new Bentley Continental GT Speed, and meet Jack Black. Enjoy the Coast during the Easter break.

spotlight

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PARADISE ON EARTH THE MALDIVES

WORDS **JAMES SINCLAIR & MADDIE QUINN** PHOTOGRAPHY **ANGSANA VELAVARU**

Renowned for its breathtaking beauty, the Maldives is synonymous with luxury, offering serene island settings and exclusive resort experiences. Each private island resort features opulent overwater villas, bespoke spa services, and gourmet dining. Visitors can indulge in private yacht trips and exceptional underwater explorations, making it the ultimate destination for lavish relaxation and adventure.



In-Ocean Villas facing the
Angsana Velavaru Resort's
main island



The Maldives is a nation of over 1,000 islands in the Indian Ocean. Although its land area is less than 300 km², it is spread across approximately 90,000 km² of ocean. Historically colonised by the Portuguese, Dutch, and British, the Maldives gained independence in 1965. Today, it is governed by a president and holds the distinction of being the smallest country in Asia both by population and land area.

Seen from above, the Maldives appear otherworldly, featuring a chain of 26 atolls that straddle the equator and countless ring-like coral formations enclosing lagoons. The translucent turquoise of the shallow waters contrasts strikingly with the deeper aquamarine sea. With consistently high temperatures and sunny conditions year-round, the Maldives is a paradise for sun lovers and water enthusiasts alike. ›



Floating breakfast

ESTEEMED RESORTS

The Maldives is renowned for its tropical resorts, often situated on petite islands surrounded by dazzling white beaches, groves of coconut palms, and lush vegetation. Home to some of the most prestigious names in the hospitality industry, these resorts offer exemplary accommodations in thatched villas equipped with all modern conveniences. Guests enjoy the indulgence of highly trained staff, luxurious spa treatments,

gourmet dining options, and a variety of ocean-based excursions.

ANGSANA VELAVARU

Part of the Banyan Group, Angsana Velavaru is an exceptional all-inclusive resort that you may just never want to leave. Upon arrival, we received a warm welcome and a comprehensive tour of the island's key facilities before being escorted to our beachfront infinity pool villa. Named 'Velavaru', meaning

Turtle Island, this location is undoubtedly one of the Maldives' most picturesque tableaux. Our tour included the Endheri Marine Centre, a PADI-certified hub for all snorkelling and diving activities, as well as the air-conditioned gym, and the spa, which offers personalised treatments by professional therapists. We also visited the bird sanctuary, where guests can enjoy the unique experience of exotic birds feeding from their arms twice daily. >

THE BEACH CLUB AT FINCA CORTESIN

“The natural setting is, quite simply, breathtaking”



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Kaani
Restaurant

Beachfront
Infinity Pool
Villa

Angsana's
Boat
Transfer



Kuredi Pool Bar

BEACH FRONT INFINITY POOL VILLAS

Arriving at our circular villa was a delight, greeted by an inviting double bed adorned with the word 'WELCOME' crafted from cut strands of lemongrass. The villa featured a salon with views across the decked pool to the beach, and a bathroom area cleverly concealed behind the bed, complete with separate shower and toilet. A serene back garden boasted an additional shower area and a free-standing bath under the sky. Inside, the villa was deliciously cool, equipped with a well-stocked mini-bar and fridge, a wardrobe for clothing, and a safe for valuables. We spent two nights enjoying the utmost privacy, alternating between lounging by the pool and swimming in the sea, and drying off on our luxurious beach sun loungers under the sun. ›



Funa restaurant and the
Dive Centre

Lobster curry at Funa



Savour Pan-Asian cuisine at Funa restaurant

DINING DELIGHTS

Angsana Velavaru has four dining options to choose from as well as In-Villa Dining. Kaani is the main restaurant with a buffet breakfast fit for royalty, and themed nights with live cooking stations. The Kuredi Pool Bar is a bit less formal, and it is permissible to lounge around the pool in swimwear while ordering drinks and enjoying breakfast, lunch, or dinner

during its opening hours from 11:00am – 11:00pm. You can also savour Pan-Asian specialities and sunset cocktails at Funa, an enticing thatched venue perched above the water which is accessed via a jetty. Azzurro Restaurant & Bar, the final gourmet haven, is located beside the In-Ocean Villas, so more on that later.

In addition to ample time for relaxation, our stay was enriched by

a delightful array of activities. We had the opportunity to embark on a Sunset Cruise complete with onboard dancing, a super-friendly crew, and the sight of dozens of dolphins frolicking beside the boat, which became a highlight of our visit. Evenings offered many entertainment options, including a traditional Maldivian Bodu Beru performance and DJ nights. ›

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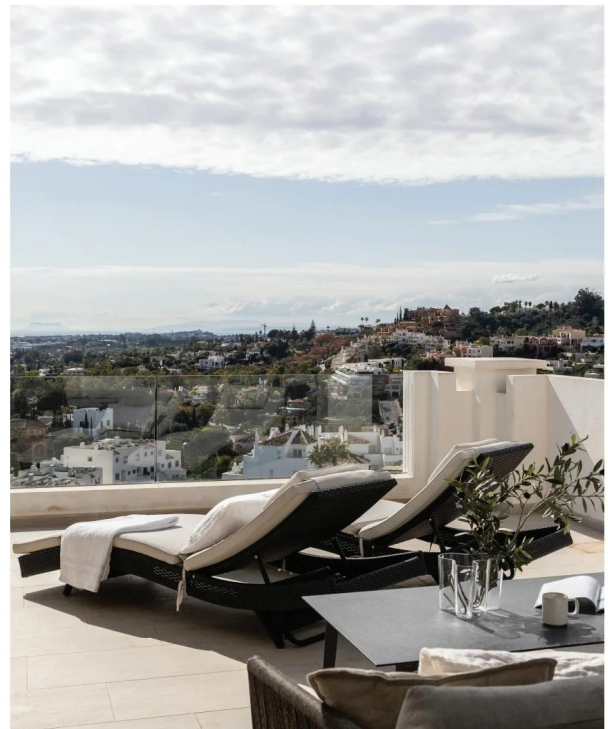
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INTO THE BLUE BY MADDIE QUINN

The allure of the Maldives has always been twofold for me: the warmth of the locals and the boundless aquatic wonderland. Unlike James, who prefers to lounge in full comfort, I thrive on a vacation that's a thrilling blend of adventure and relaxation – exhausting myself with fun activities and then rejuvenating with spa treatments. Angsana Velavaru provides the perfect setting for both, making it an ideal holiday destination for families with different tastes.

The shallow reef waters of the Maldives' lagoons teem with exotic species, and plunging beneath the surface is a must – without it, you haven't truly experienced life! Swimming here is widely regarded as safe, though it's crucial to respect



Let's go diving!

the marine environment and its diverse inhabitants. At Angsana Velavaru, the range of underwater activities caters to all ages and skill levels. Even non-swimmers are equipped with life jackets, enabling everyone to swim with turtles and a colourful array of reef fish. Imagine floating gently above a majestic whale shark – a truly unforgettable experience that will stay with you for a lifetime.

The Maldives is renowned for its diverse shark populations, which are a major draw for wildlife enthusiasts. Visitors can marvel at gentle giants like Whale Sharks and sleek Blacktip Reef Sharks in

The pristine beach of Angsana Velavaru



Whale shark excursion



Swimming with turtles

shallow lagoons, where they pose no danger to humans. Nurse Sharks, known for their docile nature, are also a common sight, when you specifically look for them. All these species are harmless to humans, making the Maldives a safe and exciting shark-watching destination.

At the Dive Center, guests can register for daily snorkel excursions around the house reef or opt for private lessons and even earn certifications. As a first-time scuba diver, I was thrilled to try a one-on-one discovery session. Here, the basics of diving are clearly explained before immediately

practicing in the lagoon. Initially apprehensive, I was quickly put at ease by Angsana's expert instructor, Ahmed, who guided me down to 9 meters to explore the vibrant reefs. He even captured videos of my adventure! Surfacing with a broad smile, I felt a newfound determination to complete a PADI certification – offered right there within 4-5 days, no doubt I will have to return for that! Each day brought with it the thrill of a new speedboat adventure, enhancing my vacation glow with a stunning tan. For those preferring to stay above water, Angsana offers a wide array of water sports

including Catamaran Sailing, Windsurfing, Float Rides, Water Skiing, Wakeboarding, Jet Skiing, and Canoeing – covering nearly every form of wave riding imaginable. The resort provides all necessary high-quality equipment along with professionals ready to teach any skill upon request. Whether it's a group or private excursion to local islands, pristine sandbanks, snorkelling adventures, or dolphin watching at sunset, the possibilities are limitless. All you need to bring is a pair of flip-flops, some reef-safe sunscreen, and an eagerness for new adventures. ›



House Reef snorkelling

THE SPA EXPERIENCE

As you step into the Angsana Spa and Gallery, you are immediately enveloped in a tranquil atmosphere. The reception doubles as a boutique, adorned with Maldivian ornaments, beachwear, and their signature line of cosmetics. Upon arrival, guests are greeted with a chilled, flavour-rich hibiscus tea that immediately lifts the spirit. One of my spa experiences included a Javanese massage by therapists trained at Banyan Academy. It began with a ceremonial foot wash and lead to a serene outdoor setting under a canopy of overlapping tree branches. After the treatment, guests are invited to continue their journey with a herbal beverage and snacks, allowing them to fully unwind. This approach is a fundamental part of the Angsana philosophy, ensuring that each visit rejuvenates body and mind equally. The menu offers an extensive variety of facial and body treatments – from beauty, relaxing, and polishing protocols to relaxing baths – providing every form of pampering imaginable. ›

Angsana Spa and Gallery

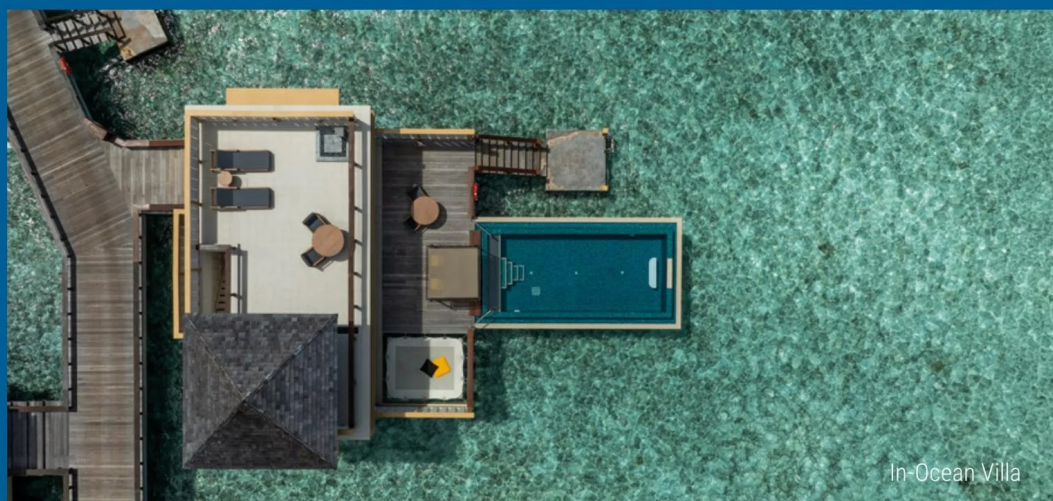


House Reef snorkelling



Beachfront Infinity Pool Villa





IN-OCEAN VILLAS

While it was bittersweet to leave our charming little house, any lingering melancholy quickly dissipated upon arriving at our in-ocean villa for the latter part of our holiday. Located on a reef about a kilometre from the island, this unique cluster of villas suspended over the water is the first of its kind in the Maldives. The villas boast ultra-luxurious amenities, high ceilings, and spacious

interiors. Designed in a rectangular layout, they feature three distinct zones: a living room complete with a sofa and TV, a large central bedroom overlooking the infinity pool, and a bathroom and dressing area, all separable by large floor-to-ceiling sliding doors. Each villa offers a private pool, an over-the-water hammock for lounging, direct sea access via a walk board and ladder, and a rooftop terrace for more options of relaxation. ›





ROOFTOP BAR & SIGNATURE COCKTAILS

2025

EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL

16th: *Soft Opening*

MAY

17th: **Grand Opening:** *Under the Stars*

22nd: *Paloma Day*

JUNE

7th: *Shine Bright Like a Diamond*

26th: *Fallen Angels*

JULY

10th: *Double Touch*

26th: *Sky Fall*

AUGUST

7th: *Guri & Eider DJ*

21th: *Everlasting Fire*

SEPTEMBER

12th: *Guri & Eider DJ*

OCTOBER

11th: *Black Swan: Closing Night*



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WORLD-CLASS DINING EXPERIENCES





Sunset Cruise

The private infinity pool blends with the horizon

In-Ocean Villa Cluster



The villas are exquisitely furnished and decorated, ensuring every need is met with Angsana toiletries in the bathroom and daily deliveries of fresh water, creating a true Shangri-La experience. We even enjoyed a glorious floating breakfast delivered to our pool one morning. The on-site Azzurro Restaurant & Bar offers Mediterranean cuisine and signature drinks, providing excellent buffet breakfasts as well as à la carte lunch

and dinner options. Although all the restaurants were inviting, Azzurro was our clear favourite. Access to the In-Ocean Villas is convenient, with a regular ferry shuttle service from the jetty in front of the island's reception, with the transfer taking just a few minutes. Guests have the flexibility to dine at any of the restaurants during the boat's operating hours.

FRIENDLY STAFF

A key aspect of the

enjoyment at this resort is the exceptional friendliness of the staff, who are plentiful in relation to the number of guests. They consistently go above and beyond to ensure you feel at ease and well cared for throughout your stay. You'll be greeted by smiling faces wherever you go. Whether you're seeking a perfectly relaxing tropical holiday, an energetic adventure, or a mix of both, Angsana Velavaru is the ideal destination! ›



Private BBQ on the beach

TRAVEL FACTS

As a Muslim country, the Maldives has specific cultural norms, including restrictions on alcohol sales and designated bikini beaches, which are particularly observed on locally inhabited islands. However, when staying at a resort like Angsana Velavaru, these restrictions do not

apply, allowing guests to enjoy a more relaxed atmosphere without the same limitations.

Tourists from all nationalities can receive a 30-day visa free of charge upon arrival in the Maldives. All travellers must submit a Traveller Declaration form within 96 hours of their arrival flight.

Direct flights to Malé, the Maldivian capital, are available from major cities including Málaga, with Qatar Airways via Doha or Turkish Airlines via Istanbul. The total flight time is typically around

15-16 hours. Upon arrival, a 40-minute seaplane transfer with Trans Maldivian Airways takes you to the resort. If it's your first time on a seaplane, prepare for an unforgettable journey!

| WWW.ANGSANA.COM/MALDIVES/VELAVARU



Azzurro restaurant for gourmet dining

A New Gem in Sierra Blanca



 PLOT: 2633M²  BUILT: 1320M²  TERRACES: 435M²  BEDROOMS: 7  BATHROOMS: 8

The splendid and unique Villa Albinoni is situated in the heart of the most prestigious community of Marbella called Sierra Blanca. Placed on a large plot and facing south with gorgeous sea views, this contemporary villa is distributed across four levels. A majestic entrance welcomes you to the double-height hall continuing towards a bright living room with a fireplace, an open plan lounge- kitchen and dining area, terraces, a cosy garden and an infinity pool. On the same floor, this villa offers one guest room and an office. On the upper level, you will find the master bedroom with stunning panoramic sea views, a large space with a walk-in closet and an en-suite bathroom. There are two other bedrooms with sea views and both with en-suite bathrooms. On the rooftop terrace, you can find a chill-and-dine area, an outdoor kitchen and a jacuzzi where all can enjoy the 360° panoramic views. The lower level includes a wine cellar, an entertainment and cinema room, an indoor heated stream pool, spa area, the gym, guest room, a service area and a garage for 4 cars. A dream house for those looking for the epitome of luxury that Marbella has to offer.

PRICE: 11.880.000€

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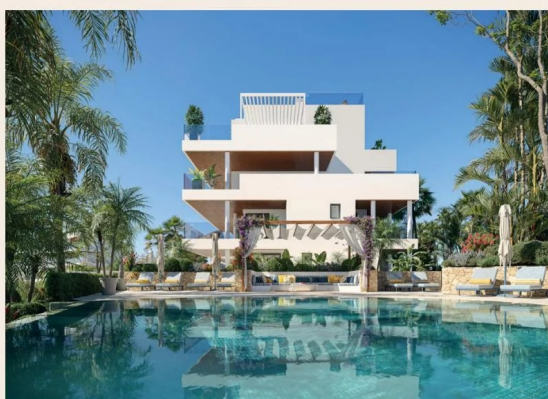
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WORDS **MARISA CUTILLAS** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **THE KIMPTON LOS MONTEROS**

THE KIMPTON LOS MONTEROS MARBELLA OPENS ITS DOORS





Anyone who has lived in or visited Marbella for many years probably knows how significant the Los Monteros Hotel has been to the history and culture of our city. This veritable icon opened its doors for the first time in 1962 and has welcomed some of the world's biggest stars.

From Elizabeth Taylor to Sean Connery, Deborah Kerr and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, many artists, politicians, and members of royalty have called Los Monteros home. After extensive renovations and the construction of a new building, it has relaunched as The Kimpton Los Monteros Marbella, honouring its legacy while keeping its eye on the future.

The Kimpton Los Monteros Marbella is more than a hotel; it pays homage to the Golden Age of Marbella, marrying luxury and exclusivity to warmth, comfort, and style. Located in one of the Coast's most exclusive areas, it combines classical elegance with a contemporary style that celebrates the best of the past and present. A myriad of nooks within the hoteal invite celebration and connection, from pristine gardens (where guests can sip on their morning coffee) to the outdoor pool area (the perfect spot to enjoy a refreshing signature cocktail). ›

RELAXING IN STYLE

The Kimpton Los Monteros has 195 spacious rooms (including 60 suites), measuring from 28m² to 125m² in size. Many have airy terraces and sea views, decorated in a captivating, contemporary style. Neutral hues like white, beige, and cream, married to pops of colour such as blue, yellow, and green make for comfortable, cheerful, elegant spaces where natural light

reigns supreme.

AN IMPRESSIVE ARCHITECTURAL LEGACY

The hotel was built in the Brutalist style, its volumetric design interacting organically and naturally with its surrounding outdoor spaces. El Equipo Creativo reimagined the space with a style inspired by the Marbella of the 1960s and 1970s that is deeply rooted in its local heritage

and bears the influence of Málaga-born Pablo Picasso. Curves, bold strokes of colour, and a feminine touch intertwine with the resort's stately architecture. Materials such as terracotta, wood, handcrafted ceramics, and soft textiles play a starring role at the hotel. These materials, complemented by carefully manicured greenery and Mediterranean craftsmanship, create warm, inviting spaces. ›





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CULINARY OFFERINGS: THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE KIMPTON LOS MONTEROS

The gastronomic offerings are also impressive, with several restaurants and bars to choose from. Leading guests on a fascinating culinary journey is José Carlos García, whose eponymous restaurant in Málaga holds one Michelin star. At Jara, the main restaurant, traditional Mediterranean cuisine is reinvented with García's innovation and

creativity. The chef ensures that produce is sourced from local markets and the bustling fish market. Escondido Rooftop, located on one of Marbella's first chic rooftops, serves traditional Mexican cuisine with a twist. Azul, a classic in the city since 1962, pays tribute to the spirit of Marbella and the history of Hotel Los Monteros. This space, which has been renovated and reimagined with specialty coffee, shared platters, and signature cocktails, preserves the essence of its

past while embracing the Mediterranean spirit of after-dinner conversation enhanced by live piano music. The Costa Club Pool Bar, inspired by the Mediterranean social scene of the 1970s, blends retro glamour with a relaxed, fun, and hedonistic vibe. Finally, the brand-new La Cabane is the product of a collaboration between Dani García and Grupo Mosh. Here, gastronomy, fashion, and entertainment come together in a perfectly curated fusion.



WELLNESS AND RELAXATION

Expect to find a host of wellness offerings and activities at the hotel, including yoga, Pilates, swimming, tennis and padel at the racquet club, an open-air gym, and access to top golf courses in the area. The SPA Maison CODAGE Paris, which will be open in a few months, will contain five treatment rooms, beauty services, a sauna, a steam bath, a hammam, a foot bath, and a space with a gym and wellness studio. It will also boast a stunning indoor pool. At the SPA, you can opt for various body treatments, facials, and massages. ›





The Hotel will be taking luxury tourism to a whole new level, with its captivating design, mouthwatering gastronomy, and a myriad of health and wellness offerings. This level of luxury is no surprise, given that it is part of IHG Hotels & Resorts – a global hospitality company committed to delivering ‘True Hospitality for Good’. With a family of 19 brands and the IHG One Rewards loyalty program, it has more than 6,600 hotels in over 100 countries and an impressive portfolio of 2,200 properties under development. 

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WAYNE CHASAN

EYE OF AN ARCHITECT AND HEART OF AN ARTIST

Wayne
photographed on
top of the Chrysler
Building – mid-
way through
his four decade
career

For many years now, the lens of Wayne Chasan has chronicled the changing urban landscape of Marbella, charting the evolution of the resort town from the 1980s through to the present day. Born of a family of architects, it is the artist in Wayne that blends the pure geometry of design with warmth and a human perspective.

WORDS **MICHEL CRUZ** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **WAYNE CHASAN**



While shooting Film Studios in Los Angeles, Wayne convinced a janitor to collaborate in order to add a sense of scale to the scene

Buildings are made for people, not the other way round, though this might have been forgotten when you look at the temples and palaces of the past and the gleaming skyscrapers of our times. And yet, some photographers have the ability to turn even the hardest angles and most brutalist of steel and concrete façades into a work of art. This comes not just from a mastery of the accompanying interplay of angles, light, and the effects that form the hallmark of the technically gifted. That is the beginning, the canvas needed to truthfully portray an edifice or show it in its best light, but the all-important finishing touch that gives it perspective is the human touch, the

creative inspiration sparked from an artistic source that makes all the difference.

You know when you're looking at an image made this way when it stirs something in you, and though most of Wayne's work has been commissioned by commercial clients the fact that he has numerous awards to his name is recognition of the artistry and humanity he brings to his craft. You might say that he is an architectural photographer with a particularly sensitive touch but it is actually the other way around. Though born into a family of architects, he is an artist who eventually came full circle to realise that his destiny lay in capturing the drama that lies hidden in the geometry of the architectural designs all around us. >



TRANSATLANTIC ROOTS

"I'm American but feel almost as Spanish," says Wayne, who was born in Florida, grew up in different parts of the USA, particularly in California and around the San Francisco Bay area, and also spent part of his childhood in places as diverse as Madrid and Almería. "When I moved to Spain it wasn't as different as you might have imagined. It was a very different culture but sunny like California and the coastline looked quite similar. My dad's

work as an architect had taken us here and I remember being driven around in a golf buggy when he was working on the design of the first La Manga resort and golf course. It would dawn on me many years later that I was replaying the same experience as an adult. The process had come full circle for me; after going to school in California for most of my teenage years, I found myself back on a Spanish golf course in a buggy...but now as a resort photographer." >

A young Roberto first photographed in the 1980s, initiating Wayne's path to becoming a photographer

A great photographer doesn't only capture an image, they create a deeper feeling – sunset image from Story Hospitality Beau Vallon Resort, Seychelles

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The early years in Spain had made a deep and lasting impression on Wayne even when he lived in Sausalito, California and pursued a career in independent film production. "I was crazy about it and managed to build up quite a bit of hands-on experience while still just a teenager, first being apprenticed at the Bay Area's largest video production studio becoming one of the youngest people to produce my own science fiction 'short' at the age of 14, which received an honorary mention

in local awards. I carried on while still in high school, working in a special effects studio that specialised in stills for motion pictures and then got a breakthrough as the production assistant of a prominent TV and documentary producer from the Spielberg, Lucas, and Coppola generation. I spent two years working for him and when I came back from a holiday in Spain with rolls of film shot in remote villages of rural Andalucía he was impressed. From then on, I produced all his official photography."

Wayne found early inspiration in rural Andalucía and was rewarded with the Gold Lux Award for Industrial Photography



COMING BACK TO SPAIN

That trip back to Spain to visit his mum who'd moved to Almería was the first serious foray into photography. Rather than lie on the beach, Wayne felt a deep urge to trek into the country and recapture those vivid images of the old Spain that he remembered from childhood. "I borrowed a camera and headed out into the unknown, chancing upon amazing scenery, picturesque landscapes and villages, ancient houses and ruins, and above all people and a way of village life that was just about to disappear. In the village of Sorbas deep in Almería province I not only photographed some of the villagers but also interviewed them using a cassette recorder and my then rusty Spanish. I only had a standard 50mm kit lens to shoot everything, which no professional photographer would do, but it was a wonderful opportunity to learn photography the hard way.

In the process, teaching myself this particular art began, and burning one's way through rolls of film and processing costs certainly made one pick it all up very quickly." >



Fantasy image combining the reality of a luxurious Marbella gym with a NASA photo of the night sky



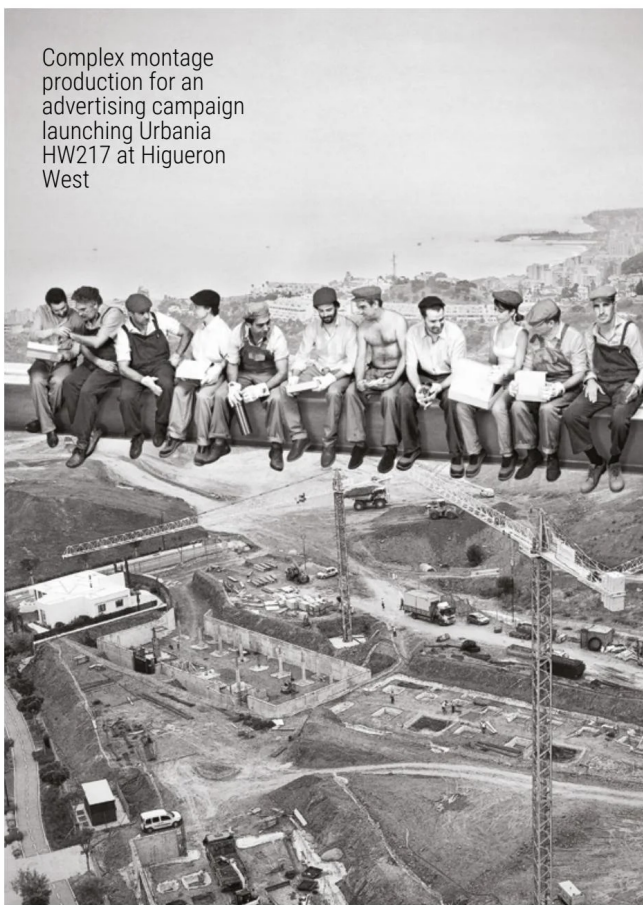
The images that had impressed his boss back in America were to form the seeds that would not only make him choose photography as a career but also return to Spain once again. "Photography kind of chose me, and certainly when I moved back and found myself in Marbella, where my father was working on a project and was close friends with fellow architect Marcos Sainz. He asked me to take some promotional shots of the project for him, which I originally resisted as I didn't think architectural images were my thing, but once I was there, I found I was fascinated. It was this imagery, this interplay of light, geometry, and background skies or landscapes that got me hooked, and I discovered I loved it and was good at it. Later, I realised that I had unconsciously been capturing architecture since my very beginnings in the Bay Area and in the villages of deep Andalucía." ›

Working as a consultant for corporations – mentoring a new generation of professionals near the Olympic Stadium, Paris

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Complex montage
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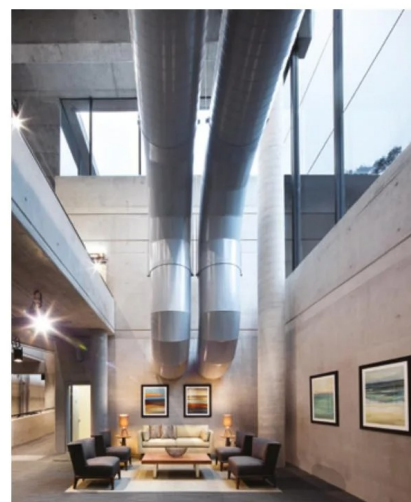


Though glitzy Marbella seemed the most unlikely place for someone with artistic sensitivities, Wayne settled, raised his family and has remained in this honey trap of a town ever since. "I love Marbella; I sometimes find it very conflicting but then I love it again." Though his work hasn't been exclusively dedicated to architectural photography – Wayne has also won awards for artistic, industrial, and fashion/beauty genres – he has shot more Marbella and Costa del Sol villas and developments than imaginable, appearing in

the likes of Casa Vogue, Vogue, Condé Nast, Elle Décor, Time and of course local magazines such as **essential** Marbella. "Later, my work increasingly took me back to the USA and quite literally around the world. I've balanced on cranes, hung out of helicopters and small planes, and stood on the edge of tall buildings – and I'm scared of heights, but when I'm working everything around me goes calm and I get immersed in the process. Though post-production is also fun, this is the moment that is still magical after all these years." >

An image like this is the product of expert skill – lobby of the H Dubai Hotel

An interior scene from the 'brutalist' Australian National Acoustics Laboratory





He has also passed this knowledge on to others, lecturing and consulting for large corporations where he worked together with brand creators to train a new generation of photographers. "It's the creative moment and the diversity of the work and setting that I find enjoyable, but in the end, Marbella is the place that I come back to, my home." This passion was reflected in *Marbella, an Urban Case Study*, a joint project with myself and architect and urban sketcher, Luiyo Vázquez, where we contributed our respective skills to pay

tribute to the city that has become our home. "I have lived in Marbella for many decades but I got goosebumps when I read and saw the visuals of our coffee table book. It was a project that formed a labour of love, part of a body of work that originated in Spain, travelled around the world, and has come back to its roots as I am now closing the circle on my Almería project of the 1980s by returning to Sorbas with new shoots and interviews – revisiting the mystery of Spain that first sparked my passion for the lens." 



WWW.CHASANASSOCIATES.COM

WWW.CHASAN.COM

IG: @WAYNECHASAN

A 'brutalist' architectural style building, set in a eucalyptus reserve near Sydney, originally designed as the Australian National Acoustics Laboratory

Chasan also captures natural beauty – Caribbean dawn on a cruise ship



Wayne is an expert at lighting and creating images that stir emotions – Vilas 12 shot for NCH Dallimore



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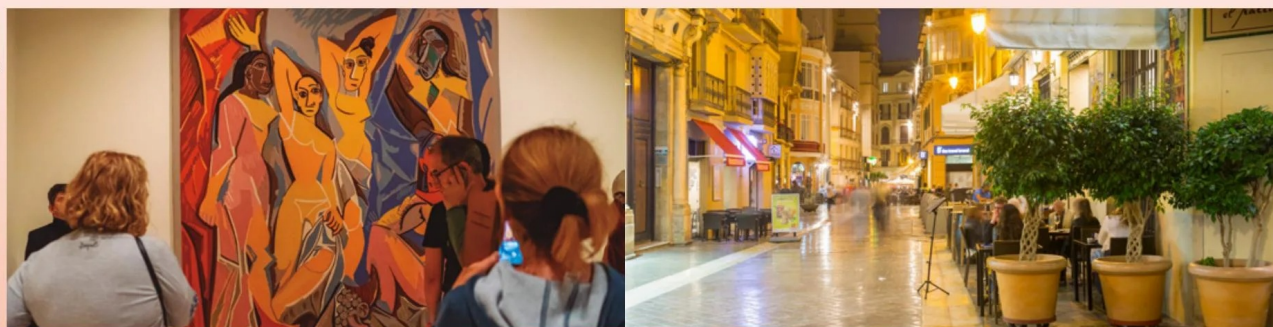


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The Museo Picasso de Málaga



ENJOY A MEMORABLE EASTER ON THE COAST

WORDS **MARISA CUTILLAS** PHOTOGRAPHY **SHUTTERSTOCK** AND
COURTESY OF **THE RESPECTIVE ESTABLISHMENTS MENTIONED**



Easter may be a solemn time in many parts of Spain, but it is also one of the most active and, dare we say, joyous. Tourists flock in droves to the Coast, spending approximately €23.9 million in the capital city of Málaga alone. Although Spain is a devoutly Christian country, many tourists visit for secular reasons. The chance to take a break from rainy days and cold weather to catch a few rays on the beach, feast on freshly caught fish and seafood, and immerse oneself in cultural pursuits appeals. If you are visiting the Coast for the first time and want to ensure your holiday is packed with entertainment and cultural enrichment, the following itinerary will keep you busy for at least a week or two!



SPENDING A DAY IN MÁLAGA

If you are planning on visiting the Coast for the first time to catch the magic of Málaga's Semana Santa, we recommend arriving a few days early. The city is a vibrant hub with stunning architectural sites, excellent restaurants, and exceptional museums. We recommend spending your first day in the Old Town, which is home to a splendid Gothic cathedral and two of the city's most renowned museums: the Museo Picasso de Málaga (featuring priceless works by Picasso) and the Carmen Thyssen Museum (which focuses on 19th-century and early 20th-century art).

WWW.MUSEOPICASSOMALAGA.ORG
WWW.CARMENTHYSSENMALAGA.ORG



Start your visit at the entrance to Calle Larios and enjoy a stroll through its many fashion, gift, and food shops, pausing to enjoy tapas at one of Málaga's oldest, most famous tapas venues: Orellana. Next, head into the Old Town via Calle Granada, where you will find a host of unique shops selling everything from jewellery to mementoes. The end of Calle Granada leads to one of Málaga's prettiest areas: the Plaza de la Merced, where Picasso's childhood home and a bevy of businesses and restaurants can be found. At nighttime, catch a show at the Teatro de Cervantes, right behind the Plaza de la Merced. If you're mainly in town for culture-hopping, it's worth driving a few minutes to the Museo Automovilístico de Málaga, which showcases how artistic trends in vehicle design have evolved thanks to visionaries such as Ettore Bugatti, Enzo Ferrari, and Henri Labourdette.

WWW.MUSEOAUTOMOVILMODA.COM



Kaleja Restaurant in Málaga

We suggest walking down from the Plaza de la Merced towards the ancient Roman amphitheatre and the 11th-century Moorish Alcazaba castle, which is perched majestically at the foot of Mount Gibralfaro. From the Alcazaba, take a 25-minute walk up to the Gibralfaro fortress, rising some 132 m above sea level and offering stunning views of the Mediterranean.

If you're on a date and after a special meal, you have two Michelin-starred venues to choose from. One is Kaleja (on C/ Marquesa de Moya 9) by Dani Carnero, located just a few metres from the Museo Picasso. Here, the chef presents traditional Andalusian cuisine with a modern touch. Many dishes are cooked over embers in a slow process known as 'cocina de candela'.

| WWW.RESTAURANTEKALEJA.COM

Another fabulous choice is Restaurante José Carlos García, located on Muelle Uno. If you haven't been to Muelle Uno yet, then you've missed out on one of Málaga's most lively zones. Packed with restaurants and shops, the port side area is also home to the Pompidou museum, which features impressive modern art from across the globe. García's restaurant is undoubtedly one of its most prized gems. Here, you will find a tasting menu comprising mainly local produce and a myriad of authentic Malagueño flavours.

| WWW.RESTAURANTEJCG.COM



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DINING OUT WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

One of the best things about visiting Málaga is the chance to encounter many culinary styles – from traditional to avant-garde, zero-kilometre to international. We mentioned two of Málaga's most famous establishments above, but more restaurants are worth checking out along the Coast. For tapas, for instance, one of the best-known venues in the province is located in Marbella: Taberna La Niña del Pisto, serving an impressive range of tapas such as Iberian chorizo, mazamorra (a salmorejo made of almonds), and fried aubergine with dark honey. The restaurant also serves main courses, heavily emphasising fish and seafood. Our favourites are the fried squid, battered cod, and grilled baby calamari. Meat lovers won't be disappointed either; the flamenquín cordobés

(a ham-stuffed meat roll) and the melt-in-the-mouth rabo de toro (tender oxtail stew) are exquisite.

WWW.RESTAURANTE.COVERMANAGER.COM/LA-NINA-DEL-PISTO

Marbella is also home to many establishments where you can try the cuisine of one of Spain's most lauded chefs, Dani García. Tantalise your taste buds at establishments like Lobito de Mar (with its emphasis on fresh fish – in particular, tuna from Almadraba), Leña (offering a myriad of grilled delights), and La Cucina at the newly reopened La Cábane at the Hotel Los Monteros. Here, you will find an array of fish and seafood, rice, and meat dishes.

WWW.GRUPODANIGARCIA.COM

Sollo restaurant
in Fuengirola



Skina: The two-Michelin-starred Skina restaurant

If you're in the mood for Michelin-starred magic, visit Skina in the Old Town, a two-Michelin-starred establishment serving contemporary Andalusian cuisine. Also worthy of mention is the one-starred Messina, the brainchild of creative chef Mauricio Giovanini. Further down the Coast, in Fuengirola, lies Sollo by Diego Gallegos, known as 'the caviar chef' and the 'master of aquaponics'. At Sollo, he offers a tasting menu with a sustainable philosophy, featuring contemporary dishes containing Mediterranean ingredients and homegrown products. He also imbues his dishes with South American touches, drawing from his Brazilian roots and his Peruvian mother's influence. Of course, chiringuito season is back this month, so make it a point to enjoy fresh, roasted espetos by the sea!

WWW.RESTAURANTESKINA.COM

WWW.RESTAURANTEMESSINA.COM

WWW.SOLLO.COM



GET PHYSICAL!

Research has long proven that there is a vital link between physical activity and mental health, and if a fitness boost is in the cards, you've definitely come to the right place! As a five-star luxury destination, the Coast is peppered with luxurious gyms. However, as you're on holiday, why not take the opportunity to exercise in the Great Outdoors and get to know the landscapes and seascapes of our area? A few activities you may enjoy in the mountains are hiking, mountain biking, and canyoning. We suggest visiting Alltrails.com to find hand-curated trail maps, driving instructions, and detailed reviews and photos from hikers and campers. One great place to walk and experience the uniqueness of Málaga's landscapes is El Torcal de Antequera, a nature reserve in the Sierra del Torcal mountain range featuring otherworldly limestone landscapes.



Outdoor fun in El Torcal

April is the month when many swimmers flock to beaches for the first time after the winter, as the weather is sunny, and few things beat catching the rays and participating in water sports. Adventurous families may enjoy parasailing. If so, we recommend Pirate Parasailing, a company with over 30 years in the water sports industry. They take you out on a boat and securely attach you to a parasail, allowing you to soar some 200 metres over the sea comfortably. Some of us have tried parasailing, and we feel that it's one of the most exciting ways to enjoy the Mediterranean Sea. This activity is available for kids aged four and above (children aged four to 12 fly alongside a responsible adult).

| WWW.PIRATESAILING.COM



Parasailing is a fun activity for the whole family

Scuba diving is a great way to get up close to nature



The Stunning Ashiana Spa
at Boho Club

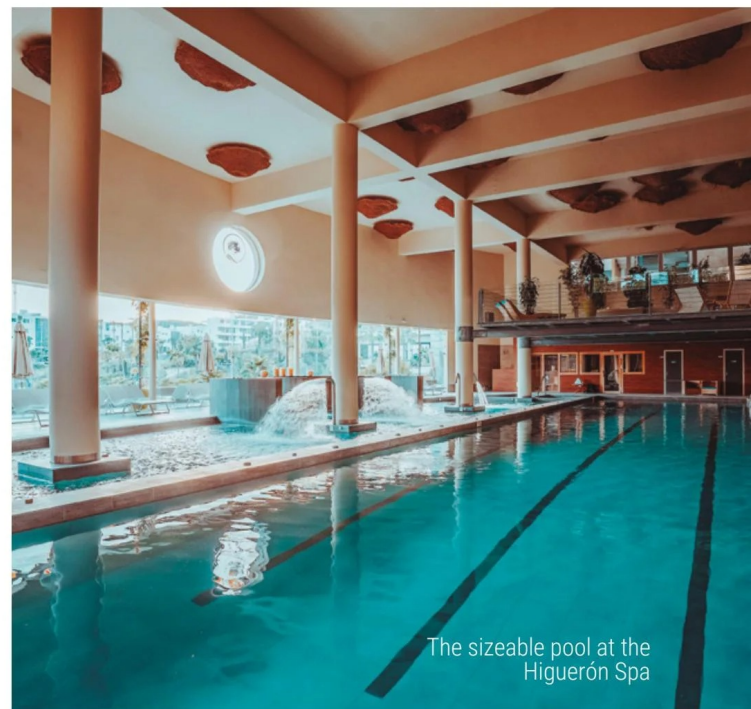
HAVE A SPA DAY

Most people would probably agree that one of the ultimate treats when it comes to winding down is enjoying a full day at a luxury spa. As a prime tourist destination favoured by discerning travellers, the Coast will spoil you for choice, with top spas located along the coastline, from Málaga to Estepona and beyond. One of the most unique of all these establishments is the Hammam Al Ándalus Baños Árabes in Málaga city, featuring stunning Moorish architecture and a host of immersion experiences, massages, and rituals. There are many treatments on the menu, though we recommend Midra, which includes a water journey and a massage on a hot stone bed.

WWW.MALAGA.HAMMAMALANDALUS.COM

A third activity we have also tried and cannot recommend highly enough is scuba diving. If you've never dived before, you will need to complete a day's training first. There are two training courses at Diving with Nic in Mijas Costa: Discover Scuba Diving (where you start with a pool session and dive in the sea) and the Bubblemaker Experience for kids aged eight and above. One of our children completed this course in a pool and booked his first dive in Nerja the following week. Since then, he has completed more PADI-certified courses and was delighted by the friendliness and professionalism of the Diving with Nic team.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.DIVINGWITHNIC.COM



The sizeable pool at the
Higuerón Spa

The impressive spa at Finca Cortesin



In Fuengirola, you will find the Higuierón Spa, featuring an impressive circuit spa comprising a pool with over 30 pressure jets that relax numerous muscle groups in the body. The Spa also has contrast pools to tone the body and boost circulation, an ice bath, a sauna, and a Turkish bath zone, with 'bio aromas' that help with the removal of toxins and purify the respiratory tract. There are also a host of wonderful facial and body treatments and rituals that will soothe your body and relax your mind.

| WWW.HIGUERONSPA.COM

In Marbella, there is no shortage of luxury spa experiences. The Six Senses Spa at the Puente Romano and the spa at the Anantara Villa Padierna Palace are known for their stunning designs and top-notch treatments.

| WWW.PUENTEROMANO.COM
 | WWW.ANANTARA.COM

One Marbella establishment that is definitely worth a visit is Ashiana at the Boho Club resort. This holistic well-being centre combines technological innovation and ancestral practices. It offers a host of cutting-edge treatments,

including mindful massages, healing therapies, and advanced face and body treatments like Collagen Wave Skin Tightening and LPG Face and Body Endermologie. Ashiana also has special beds that combine specific frequencies, vibrations, and temperature and pressure changes to instil profound calm. And if you're staying in Marbella, it may be worth driving half an hour to Finca Cortesin. This blissful resort in Casares is home to The Spa, which spans 2,200m² and boasts a 25m² indoor, climatized saltwater pool. Specialising in Thai treatments, it contains 10 individual (and one double) treatment rooms.

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OFF-THE-BEATEN TRACK

Not everyone visiting the Coast is solely after rest, relaxation, and good food. If you are one of the many people who enjoy taking part in unique, memorable experiences, you will once again have a truly impressive number of choices this Easter. If you have young children in the family, we suggest Bioparc

Fuengirola – an animal park that recreates animal habitats, and that is dedicated to the conservation of numerous species.

| WWW.BIOPARCFUENGIROLA.ES

Older kids might enjoy a bigger adrenaline rush. If so, we can't think of a better day out than the

Caminito del Rey (King's Little Path), an eight-kilometre-long route pinned to the steep walls of the narrow Gaitanes gorge, which rises around 100 metres above the Guadalhorce River. The trail now entices around 300,000 visitors annually, making it one of the most popular attractions on the Coast. It takes three to four hours to



The vertiginous Caminito del Rey

complete and offers breathtaking views of cliffs, troglodytic cave houses, a 'fossil beach', ancient trees, and a large valley. The walk also comprises crossing a suspended bridge called the Puente del Rey ('King's Bridge').

| WWW.CAMINITODELREY.INFO



Get close to the animals at Bioparc Fuengirola



Escape room fun

If you have older kids, meanwhile, indulge their passion for adventure at an Escape Room, where they are challenged to escape from rooms by using their logic, intuition, and teamwork abilities. In Marbella, Arkham Escape Rooms offers a 90-minute escape room experience, with adventurers having the chance to choose their own escape.

| WWW.ARKHAMESCAPEROOMS.COM

Signum is another popular escape room company that offers 60-minute themed experiences filled with mysteries, logic problems, and enigmas!

| WWW.SIGNUMESCAPEROOM.COM

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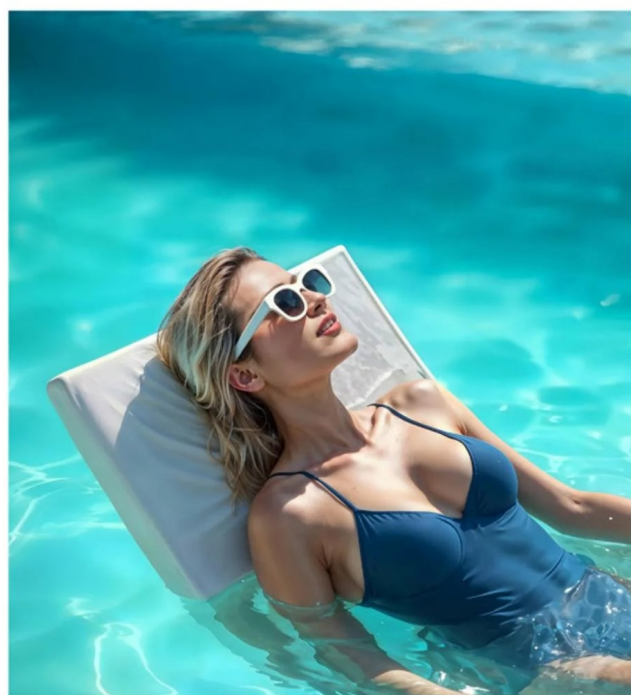
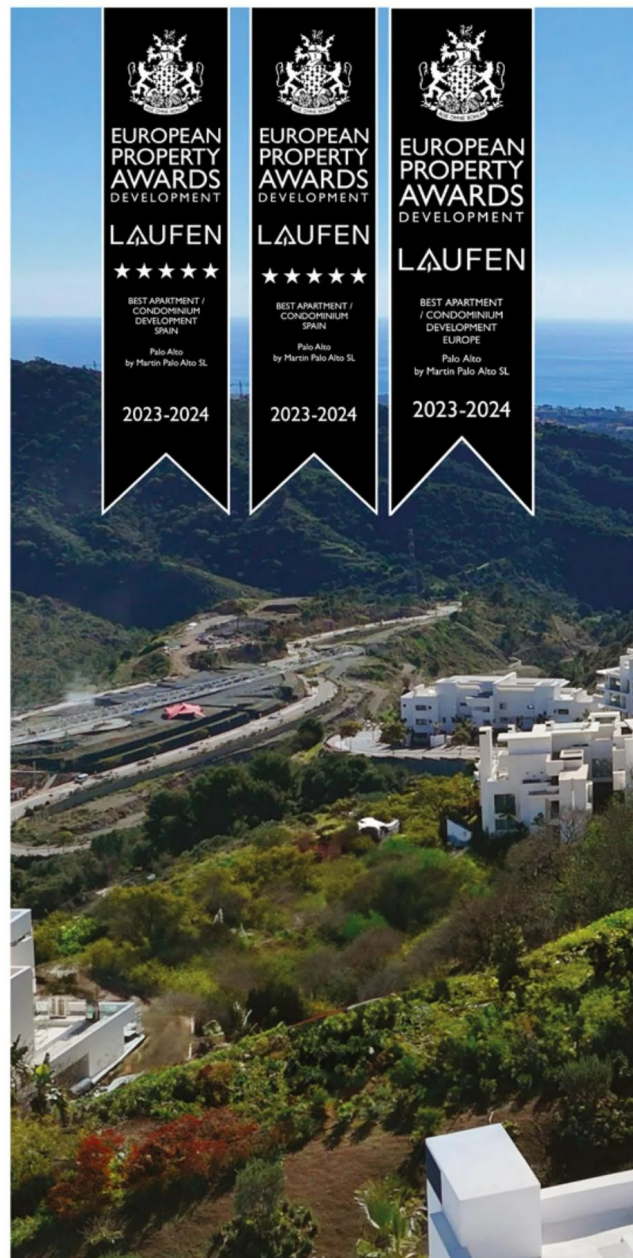
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LAST UNITS



THE WORLD OF CERAMICS

If you think you know about ceramics, think again. Though this is an ancient material with a history that goes back millennia – in fact, one that defines many of the world's civilisations – over the past twenty years ceramics has undergone a whole game-changing metamorphosis, and it is sexier than ever!

WORDS **MICHEL CRUZ** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **CERSAIE**





There was stone, and wood, and marble, and porcelain, and tiles. This is how it used to be, each clearly defined and recognisable. Then came technology and mixed it all up. In the process, ceramics has entered the realms of many other materials, solving problems of scarcity for some while also providing a multitude of practical solutions and a flurry of new creative possibilities. ›





To be fair, ceramics have had many a multitude of applications for a very long time now. Porcelain is a fine example of such an age-old ceramic material, and one that has been the mainstay of tableware, vases, and decorative pieces for thousands of years, and continues to be so to this day. Porcelain has made fortunes, raised empires, and defined them, with it nowadays being used for more than household items alone. Ceramic tiles have long since been a centrepiece of floor, kitchen, and bathroom tiling. They are applied in hospitals, laboratories, factories that require sanitary conditions, and can also provide cladding for modern buildings – usually office blocks – or large renovated ones. ›





AIR SYSTEM, EL SISTEMA DE DIVISIÓN Y PANEL PUERTA. DISEÑO GIUSEPPE BAVUSO

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Rimadesio



Fired to very high temperatures, they provide a very high degree of impermeability that makes them not only very practical and easy to clean, but also resistant to the formation of bacteria on ceramic surfaces, which makes such tiles ideal for areas where hygiene and sterility are important. Of course, we've also been using porcelain bath tubs, toilets, bidets, wash basins and kitchen sinks, watches, synthetic gems, even dentures, for a long time, but that's just the tip of the iceberg.





MODERN AGE CERAMICS

Think of the kind of rockets that send things into space and you're probably imagining some form of high-tech metal alloy. You would not be wrong, but there are also rocket thrusters made from varieties of high-tech ceramics. In reality, ceramic is one of the hardest and most versatile materials known to mankind, used in anything from the more commonly known stoneware to a vast array of industrial, scientific, medical, military, and even space or sports



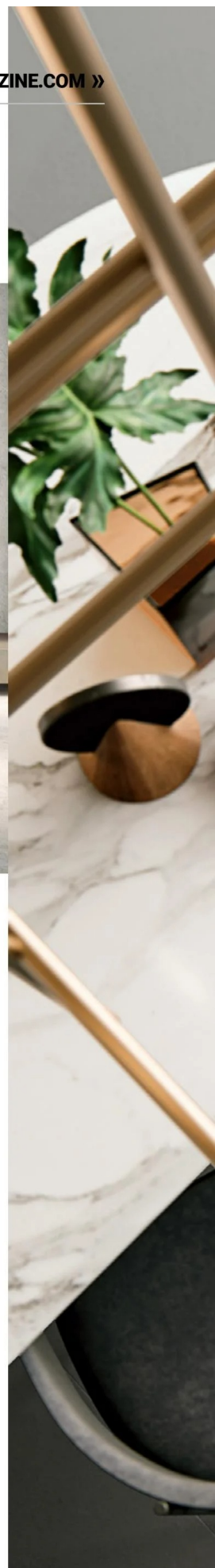
applications. It shares a lot of characteristics with glass, and as a result is low in porosity, high in impermeability, and has very specific acoustic and conductive qualities. For this reason, it is used in thermal and electrical insulators, as well as high-temperature superconductors. ›



There is ceramic-based glassware, ceramic bricks, knives with razor-sharp ceramic blades, and even sharper cutting blades used in industry. Yes, we've come a long way since we first began to craft pottery and corded ware items. Firing such products made them harder and more durable, followed by a whole industry dedicated to glazing, and now ceramics are at the heart of modern materials development technology. Scientists are finding ever more advanced ways of taking ceramics into a whole new universe of possibilities. Many of these find their way into construction, where ceramics have always played an important role, but never more than they do today. ›









CERAMICS COMING HOME

If this noble material was first associated with the home and has gone around the world finding its way into industry, medicine and scientific research, then much of it is coming back home, into the house environment, as many of the recent developments in this field have been construction oriented. Apart from sanitary ware, kitchens, floor tiles, and the aforementioned bricks, there are also ceramic rooftiles, pipes, insulation materials, and a whole array of decorative materials that you thought were made of stone, wood, brick or marble. In fact, you almost certainly thought they actually were stone, wood, brick or marble, but you see, today all of the above can look and feel like the original but may actually be... ceramic. ›

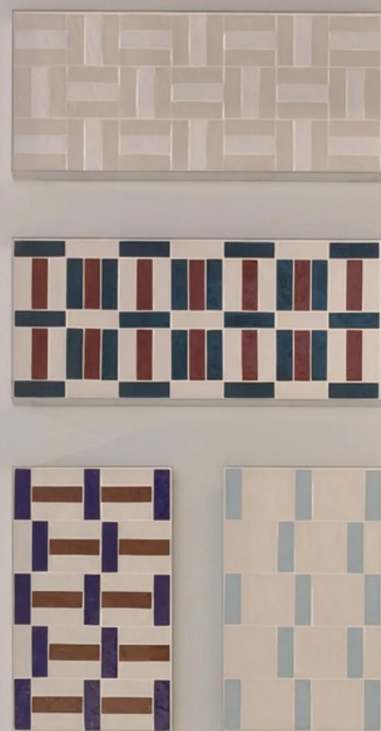




Ceramic creativity has flowered to the point where the choice of floor, wall, bathroom, kitchen, and decorative tiling has taken on new dimensions. It can encompass art, emulate wood and stone, not to mention marble, and is generally more flexible, readily available and affordable. The level of design, textures, and possibilities defies the imagination, and while Spain is the largest producer of ceramics in the world –

with the global hub situated in the town of Villarreal north of Valencia – Italy is of course also an important source of design and innovation. Perhaps it is for these reasons that the industry gathers each September at the International Exhibition of Ceramic tile and Bathrooms furnishings – CERSAIE – in Bologna, a veritable world of ceramics.

| WWW.CERSAIE.IT





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KORE
ESTATES

A Fresh Vision for Marbella's Property Market

"We came here as buyers first, so we understand the
experience firsthand"



Marbella's property scene is evolving, and one company is approaching it with a fresh perspective. Kore Estates was born from experience and a genuine love for Marbella, with a mission to make the process of buying and selling homes feel less daunting and more intuitive.

Kristian Connolly, Founder and CEO, and Oana Zaharia, Partner and Property Advisor, understand just what it's like to invest in Marbella. Kristian's journey, along with his family's extensive business background, led to the creation of Kore Estates—an agency focused on integrity, expertise, and a truly personal approach.

Q: What inspired you to start Kore Estates?

Kristian Connolly: "I initially came to Marbella as an investor, drawn by its incredible potential and lifestyle. What started as an investment opportunity soon became something much more—we decided to make Marbella our home. From there, a passion for investment naturally evolved into creating Kore Estates. It allows us to continue investing while also helping homebuyers and investors navigate the market to find their dream home or the perfect investment."

Q: What makes Kore Estates different from other agencies?

KC: "We've been in the buyer's shoes, so we understand the concerns, the uncertainties, and what clients need to feel confident in their decisions. Too often, people are left frustrated by agents who overpromise and underdeliver. We wanted to offer something different—straightforward advice, honest communication, and a process that feels transparent and manageable."

Q: How has your business experience influenced Kore Estates?

KC: "Our experience in business has always been about identifying value and making smart, long-term decisions. That perspective naturally carries over into real estate. We understand competitive markets, and we use that knowledge to help clients navigate Marbella's property landscape with confidence."

Q: What challenges do buyers and sellers face in Marbella, and how do you help?

KC: "Buying property in Marbella is a big step, and navigating a new market can be daunting—especially if they're investing from abroad. We've been in their shoes, so we focus on trust and transparency. It's not just about transactions; it's about building relationships and making sure clients feel supported, informed, and confident in every decision."

How do you select properties for your clients?

KC: "We focus on properties that truly stand out—whether it's a prime location, strong investment potential, or something that aligns perfectly with a client's lifestyle. From the energy of Puerto Banús to the prestige of the Golden Mile, we tap into our network and market insight to give clients access to opportunities that others might miss."

Q: Oana, you're Kristian's partner in this venture, how does your expertise add to Kore Estates' approach?

Oana: "My experience in real estate investment, combined with years in interior design in Italy, brings an extra dimension to what we offer. It's not just about finding the right property—it's about understanding how a space can be transformed into something exceptional, which is all part of the property buying process. Whether it's optimising an investment or helping clients envision their perfect home, we aim to provide a service that goes beyond the traditional buying and selling experience."

Q: What's your vision for Kore Estates?

KC: "I couldn't agree more with Oana! We're not just here to sell properties. We want to shape the future of Marbella's real estate market in a way that prioritises client experience. Investing in a home—whether it's a forever home or an investment opportunity—should be exciting, not stressful. Our job is to make that journey feel effortless."

As Marbella's real estate market grows and matures, Kristian and his team at Kore Estates hopes to play a part in making the process of finding a home here a little easier, a little more enjoyable, and a lot less stressful.

info@koreestates.com
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www.koreestates.com





BENTLEY

CONTINENTAL GT SPEED

The mile-munching Continental ditches pure internal combustion for an all-new hybrid powertrain. Can it hope to hold a flame to the outgoing petrol-powered variants?

WORDS **SAM HEXTER** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **BENTLEY**



After decades of continental-crushing performance, Bentley has finally retired the amazing 6-litre twin turbo W12 engine; an inevitable change that's been on the cards for some time, given the ever-tightening emissions regulations in Europe. Now, in its place under the long hood of the new flagship Continental GT Speed, sits a hybrid powertrain. But fossil fuel lovers, don't panic! The new Continental retains the exceptional V8 but can now borrow torque from electric trickery.

Let's start with the powertrain then,

as it's undoubtedly the biggest change between this new Conti and the outbound pure petrol models.

The first thing to note is that the Continental GT is now a plug-in hybrid. The W12 that was hanging out over the front axle has now been replaced by a lighter twin turbo V8 engine, capable of generating a massive 584bhp in isolation without the hybrid assistance. Also, if you've driven both the last gen versions of the V8 and the W12, you'll know retaining the V8 is certainly no bad thing, as it always sounded better than the W12 at full chat anyway. ›



The addition of the 25.9kWh battery packs adds some heft back onto the curb weight, but they're sat over the rear wheels, helping the burly grand tourer retain excellent balance and poise. Weight distribution for the new model now sits at 49:51, meaning there's a bit more chunk in the trunk than before. This car is around 200kg heavier overall than the previous W12 model. There's an e-motor carefully positioned between the powerful V8 and the eight-speed twin clutch transmission. This helps fill in power and torque

figures with a further 187bhp, pushing the total power output up to a staggering 771bhp and a road ripping 1,000 Nm-torque.

The GT Speed absolutely earns its title. 100km/h will be met in 3.2 seconds from standing in the 2,459kg coupe, and 3.4 seconds in the even heavier roofless GTC, which tips the scales at 2,636kg. Seriously quick for such a lump of a car, but this new Bentley pulls like a freight train.

Four-wheel steering, new supple twin-chamber dampers, and active anti-roll bars help to

hide the new heft on the road, but the Continental was never a lightweight racer to begin with. There is an impressive array of chassis updates being ushered in with this new model though. Aside from the aforementioned upgrades hidden under the skin, most of the Continental's design remains largely unchanged. And that's not a bad thing, as the previous version, now nearing six years in production, is still to my eyes one of the best-looking cars ever made. No one will change my mind.



From the outside, the front and rear valances have had a little nip and tuck, but nothing revolutionary. The most obvious change is to the headlight cluster – the iconic dual lamps either side have gone. Instead, they've condensed all the required illuminations into a single lamp that features a distinctive new slash that cuts through the traditional circular bezel. A good look, given this is something of a mid-gen refresh, but I must admit to preferring the old twin lamps on either flank, looking like a perfect pair of crystal whisky tumblers. Inside the cabin, there are only very minor tweaks over the last gen car visible to the untrained eye. Everything on display here remains top quality and the finish is nothing short of superb and surpasses everything else in its class. ›





While a few prospective owners – and petrolheads on the internet who will never come close to driving one – might post online about their grievances in the decommissioning of the W12, the V8 hybrid is superior in every aspect. This new Continental is the best it has ever been. Balanced, poised, powerful and ludicrously fast for something this size. The Bentley Continental GT Speed is the absolute pinnacle of grand touring. And if the introduction of this excellent hybrid powertrain means we can keep cars like this in production for a little longer, how can you not love it? 📧

- » **POWER** 771 bhp and 1,000 Nm-torque
- » **0-100KM/H** 3.2 seconds
- » **TOP SPEED** 355 km/h
- » **MARKET ALTERNATIVES** Ferrari 12 Cilindri, Aston Martin Vanquish, Maserati GranTourismo, Mercedes-AMG GT
- » **PRICE** From €300.000 plus local taxes



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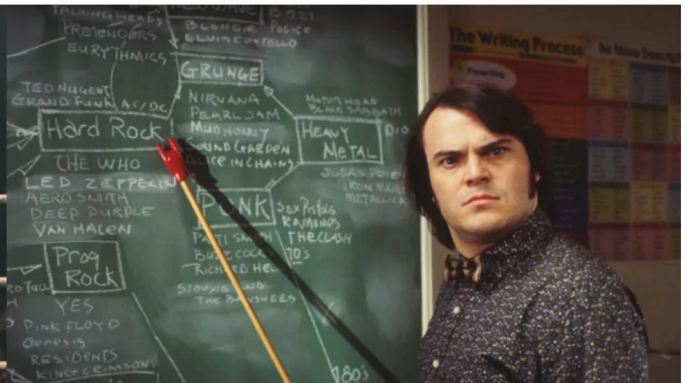
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JACK BLACK

LARGER THAN LIFE

A versatile American entertainer, Jack Black is known for his impactful contributions to both music and film. Born Thomas Jacob Black in Santa Monica, California, the 55-year-old has carved a niche for himself as a comedian, actor, and musician.





In the world of cinema, he is celebrated for his dynamic acting style, which perfectly blends comedy with depth, gaining widespread fame with roles in films such as *School of Rock* (2003), *High Fidelity*, *Bernie*, and yes, even as the voice of Po in the animated franchise *Kung Fu Panda*.

Musically, Black is one half of the rock duo Tenacious D, which he founded with Kyle Gass in 1994. The band is known for its humorous and satirical songs and their self-titled debut album was a breakthrough success, being followed by several others, including **The Pick of Destiny**, which also served as a soundtrack to their film of the

same name.

On a personal front, Black is married to Tanya Haden, daughter of jazz double bassist Charlie Haden. They tied the knot in 2006 and have two sons. Beyond his public persona, Black is known for his love of video games and has a YouTube channel, *Jablinski Games*, which features gaming and other personal content.

In 2025, Black remains as busy as ever – currently promoting *A Minecraft Movie*, in which he stars alongside the likes of Jason Momoa, Jennifer Coolidge, and Emma Myers. He is riding on the coattails of an impressive last 12 months in which both *Kung Fu Panda 4* and *Borderlands* have engaged

audiences.

Later this year, the actor returns in a reboot of the slithery 1997 classic *Anaconda*. For now, though, onto blockier realms, as Steve in the *Minecraft* project, a computer game franchise adapted for cinema, and so far, to wide acclaim.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT ALL THE VIDEO GAME MOVIES THAT YOU ARE IN?

"I don't know, but I like it and my bookings are all full, and that makes me love them even more!

The truth is they're so much fun to do, to be involved in – funny voices, original characters. You'll very rarely see me in something that's not original. I don't want to follow; I want to create." >

YOU'VE SAID THAT BECAUSE YOU GOT THE ROLE OF STEVE IN MINECRAFT, YOU'VE BEEN BACK ON THE PLATFORM AS PREPARATION FOR THE ROLE?

"Yeah it's true. I love the game and after not playing it for so long, it was the perfect excuse to pick it up and jump right back in again.

My two boys have loved playing Minecraft so it was one of those perfect things that we could get back together and enjoy. Sometimes these

projects all land in the right way.

We're smack bang in the midst of a video game movie golden age, dude! I'm totally stoked to be throwing down in this epic cinematic playground. It's a thrilling ride, baby!"

HOW HAS IT HELPED YOU PREPARE FOR THE ROLE OF STEVE IN THE FILM?

"Well, I totally immersed in the world of Steve. I totally reconstructed my whole living world into little pixels

and building blocks. It was a vocation [laughs].

I was giving it blood, sweat, and tears to be Steve in the flesh. Steve Black."

THIS DOES FEEL LIKE THE SORT OF MOVIE THAT COULD AND MAYBE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE BEFORE NOW?

"You mean execs and financiers capitalising on the latest trend?! I know what you're getting at!

The truth is, when you have any sort of cultural project that impacts a generation, it's always going to be celebrated in film or on TV, and yes, in merchandise and all that as well. That's just the society we live in, and that's a good thing because people want to celebrate these cool things. And let's be honest, if that wasn't the case, I'd be sat at home doing nothing today; perhaps gardening or washing bed linen... but definitely not here."

WORKING WITH THE LIKES OF JASON AND JENNIFER MUST HAVE BEEN IMMENSE...

"Working with another whose name begins with J is immense. I've known this to be the case for years [laughs]. But yes, they are great people and incredible actors. They give their all, and their all is always enough."



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

"I'd say my favourite part of acting is just getting in front of the camera – diving into it, and I include the voice work in that. There's something magical about collaborating with other actors, experimenting with things until you strike gold – that feeling is unbeatable.

I'm grateful for the chance to do what I love. I savour every moment. I really do.

I think I'm old enough now to know that perfection isn't always possible, whereas in the past I was striving for this thing that didn't really exist.

That's an important evolution, and one that only age can provide, I think."

DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME YOU REALISED THAT YOU WANTED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE FILM INDUSTRY?

"I recall being around 10 years old when I experienced this incredible little film – maybe you've heard of it? It was *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. The theatre was alive; everyone was dancing, singing, clapping – just radiating joy.

I would say that that moment was transformative for me. It revealed the enchanting power of the movie industry, a place where people can freely immerse themselves in joy, escape the burdens of daily life, and just live fully in the moment



with pure positivity.

It was there, in that jubilant crowd, that I saw how films could create magical spaces for freedom and happiness, and I knew I wanted to – somehow and some way – be a little part of that."

WHO WAS YOUR BIG INSPIRATION BACK AT THE START?

"Funnily enough my first movie was a big thing for me. It was *Bob Roberts*, which was a project by Tim Robbins and featured so many then famous and future Hollywood stars.

Tim and I had a good rapport, and I knew I was hitting some good notes, albeit missing something.

He told me to speed up and ramp up everything I was doing. If I was approaching a scene with intensity eight, turn it up to 10. If I was laughing for two seconds, extend it to three. It was all about being visual and big, and maximising everything

on screen. I guess it was about being noticed.

That was great advice for me, and I've always taken that ethos forward. Be big – because if you aren't, someone else will be."

WAS THAT WHAT TURNED YOU TOWARDS GETTING INTO SHOW BUSINESS?

"It kind of got started when I was in high school, and I went to audition for a part in a school musical. While I was singing, I noticed that this very pretty girl who had been standing in the hallway before I went in was listening to me sing and she was very impressed. Her name was Heather. She had never been interested in me before, and suddenly I saw that performing was a pretty cool thing to do.

That day was a turning point in my life. I remember thinking, 'From now on I'm going to sing! For the rest of my life! Because this attention feels good.' That kind of set things in motion." >



HOW DID YOU GO FROM MUSIC TO COMEDY, THOUGH?

"It was strange how it happened. I was playing my very first concert with my rock band, Tenacious D. We only had one original song in our playlist, the rest were all cover versions. But we rocked as hard as we could and tried to act like we were very professional rock stars. Except the audience was laughing at us. We kept rocking and the people kept laughing. We failed miserably at being rock stars. So that's when I saw that the key was not taking ourselves so seriously and making fun of being rock musicians. That was also the moment when I realised that comedy was my real talent and that's where I put all my effort."

IT TOOK YOU A WHILE BEFORE YOU BECAME SUCCESSFUL, THOUGH?

"It took an eternity! My parents had to give me financial support while I was in my twenties because I would get one job, make a bit of money, then rent an apartment, then not

be able to pay the rent, and have to move back in with my mother. It kept on going like that for years. I would find an apartment of my own, then go broke again, and move back to my mom's."

HOW DID YOUR MOTHER FEEL ABOUT THAT?

"Oh, she loved having me in the house! At least that's what she says! (Smiles nervously and pretends to think about it.) No, my mom was really cool. She's a great mom and was a great teacher for me."

WOULD YOU SAY YOU YOURSELF ARE A GOOD TEACHER?

"I've always tried to teach my boys how to play instruments, and through that experiment have in fact discovered I'm not a very good teacher! It takes a certain temperament and patience that I don't know if I'm gifted with!"

YET KIDS ALWAYS WANT TO BE WITH YOU?

"I don't think of my thing as

a magic thing. I'm just sort of a clown so kids like when I make crazy faces – it's the international language of clowning comedy."

ARE YOU A STRICT DAD THOUGH?

"Only in terms of schedules. They're a bit older now, but in the past, I would like them to get to bed on time so they can get up in time and get to school."

I like them to do the things they're supposed to – just to keep them on schedule with the rest of the kids in their school. I don't want them to fall behind. So, I'm not the party dad! I'm not the rock'n'roll dad that everybody wants me to be all the time! Sometimes...."

WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO TRAVEL ON VACATION WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

"I don't travel for fun really. I like to stay at home. There's lots of travel. I like traveling for business, that's the way I like to travel. Because if I travel for vacation, I always get a



little anxious. I feel like I am wasting time, and my life is running out, and I have got to get back home to work. It's strange. Relaxing on vacation is a skill and I don't know how to do it."

DO YOU LIKE TO STAY BUSY?

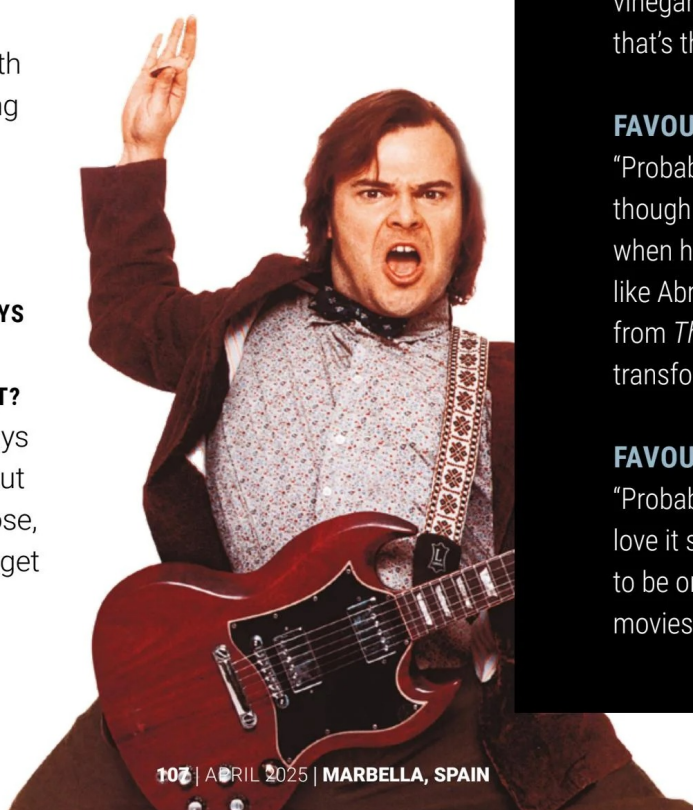
"Yes and no. Working with my band – that's both being busy and relaxation time, I guess."

IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT ON YOUR LIST THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO, BUT HAVEN'T QUITE GOTTEN AROUND TO YET?

"Well first you don't always get what you want in life, but I've gotten pretty damn close, I would say, and I never forget that.

One thing that I haven't done that would be

absolutely freakin' awesome to do would be a full-on musical. I love music, but how about being able to blow people away with giving my all in a huge musical production?" **e**



107 | APRIL 2025 | MARBELLA, SPAIN

BLACK BOXOUT

FAVOURITE BAND...

"The Pixies would come close. I just love The Pixies and I have seen them a ton of times. Them or Frank Black."

FAVOURITE MEAL...

"Definitely a cheeseburger. It's the perfect sandwich – it's the only real American contribution to world cuisine.

And the best is Apple Pan. But there's also one in the valley that no one knows about... well that's not true – Bill's Burgers. On Oxnard.

Sushi is my second favourite. SugarFish. Ever been to SugarFish? It's a chain, they got on La Brea. They got one on Ventura and they got one in downtown LA and Beverly Hills.

Oh my God and they all are exactly the same and the recipe of the rice, it's got a sweet vinegar, so good. Oh! SugarFish, that's the way to my heart."

FAVOURITE ACTOR...

"Probably Daniel Day Lewis, even though I think I only like him when he plays old Americans, like Abraham Lincoln, or that guy from *There Will Be Blood*. What a transformation that was."

FAVOURITE MOVIE...

"Probably *This Is Spinal Tap*. I love it so much, and I do find it to be one of the most quotable movies I've ever seen."



Have a look at some of the prestigious projects from Pierre Doyle. Preview forthcoming blockbusters for the big screen and top series to watch at home. Check out what's trending in Spain and elsewhere, and learn about measures being employed to make our travels safer.

trends

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what's cool?

WORDS BY IAIN BLACKWELL

EL TRIBUT – BARCELONA

The new El Tribut restaurant, which recently opened its doors in Barcelona in a seafront location at Sant Martí, is one of the most prestigious design projects of recent times. A collaboration with the Bonjoch Studio and Lamp lighting company has created a unique atmosphere that enhances both the architecture and the gastronomic experience.

WWW.ELTRIBUT.COM



NEW SAFARI DESTINATIONS

Marriott International Inc. unveiled plans to open two luxury tented safari clubs in Kenya: The Ritz-Carlton Masai Mara Safari Camp and JW Marriott Mount Rhino Reserve Safari Camp, underscoring the company's commitment to offering unique travel experiences. The properties aim to set new standards in luxury hospitality in some of Africa's most stunning safari destinations.

WWW.MARRIOTT.COM



THE LAUNCH OF PATRÓN EL ALTO

PATRÓN Tequila, the world's leading super-premium tequila, has officially launched PATRÓN EL ALTO, marking a new chapter for tequila lovers in Spain. By blending Extra Añejo, Añejo, and Reposado tequilas, each aged to perfection in 11 different varieties of barrels, the ultra-premium expression achieves extraordinary smoothness and a refined flavour profile.

| WWW.PATRONTEQUILA.COM



SHEILA LALA, THE FIRST COMIC SOMMELIER

Sheila González, aka Sheila LaLa, is the first stand-up comic sommelier in Spain, who is uncorking the seriousness of the wine sector and bringing it closer to a female audience with a lot of humour. Talking about wine can sound sophisticated and complex, but Sheila has found the perfect formula to make it accessible and fun, with Wine Up Comedy.

| WWW.WINEUPCOMEDY.COM

ARTEMACUR SPA REDESIGN

The award-winning Artemacur Spa at the Klosterhof - Alpine Hideaway & Spa in Bayerisch Gmain has been given a makeover. The redesign has created a new sense of space, with light wood, soft colours, and artwork that blend harmoniously, inspiring reflection and contemplation. New retreat areas have also been created for guests to relax in.

| WWW.KLOSTERHOF.DE



DISCOVER THE NEW LAGEN ISLAND

Located between the limestone cliffs and crystal-clear waters in the Philippines, Lagen Island El Nido Resort is undergoing a transformation that will make it a benchmark for Filipino design. Its reopening will mark a new era for Ayala Land Hospitality, with a vision that celebrates local craftsmanship and redefines barefoot luxury from a deeply cultural perspective.

| WWW.ELNIDORESORTS.COM

ALL EYES ON PILAR RUBIO

The Spanish TV presenter and model Pilar Rubio once again captured all eyes in El Desafío, with a spectacular all-white look in an impressive swimsuit with an infinity neckline from Selmark, which is part of the spring-summer 2025 capsule collection. Rubio, who is the wife of Sergio Ramos, has been the image of the Galician brand for five years.

| WWW.SELMARKLINGERIE.COM

LI-ONNA INAUGURATES VINYL OMAKASE

The innovative Japanese restaurant Li-Onna, located on Madrid's Recoletas 1, presents Vinyl Omakase, a unique experience where haute cuisine and music come together in perfect harmony. This concept will take place every Wednesday in the Darumna Room, the restaurant's most intimate, groundbreaking space, designed by Lázaro Rosa-Violán.

| WWW.LIONNA.ES



PIERRE DOYLE

CRAFTING HOMES WITH PASSION

Pierre Doyle creates homes, but he is not a conventional developer. What sets him apart? His passion. Each villa he builds is not merely a project; it is a deeply personal endeavour. Pierre designs and constructs each property as if it were his own before selling it. This distinctive approach is evident in every detail, from the architectural vision to the impeccable finishes.

WORDS **MICHEL CRUZ** PHOTOGRAPHY **KEVIN HORN**
AND **SPCA (SUNNY PRODUCTION CREATIVE AGENCY) COURTESY OF SOLVILLA**



A redevelopment project by Pierre Doyle
that was ahead of its time



Pierre Doyle,
founder of
Lifestyle Villas

A NEW CHAPTER IN ARCHITECTURE

Though Pierre does not come from a traditional property development background, he has always had a profound love for architecture, particularly the work of Frank Lloyd Wright. After a highly successful career in hospitality, retirement gave him the opportunity to immerse

himself in this passion. It all began with a plot of land in Nagüeles – one that felt just right. Pierre studied the land, its views, and its potential, envisioning something truly special.

INSPIRED BY FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

The location was ideal, offering both sea and mountain views within close

reach of Marbella's Golden Mile. Yet it was also an infill site – one of the last untouched plots in the area. Inspired by Wright's iconic Fallingwater, Pierre sought to create a villa that would embody modern elegance while harmonising with its surroundings. The result was Villa Capricio: a stunning contemporary home and the birth of Lifestyle Homes. ›

The beautiful angles
of the Frank Lloyd
Wright inspired villa





A lifestyle home complete with panoramic rooftop entertainment area



The sleek angles of Villa Los Angeles 185



A VISION BEYOND STYLE

Pierre does not adhere to a single architectural style. For him, that would be uninspiring. Instead, he allows each plot to guide the design. His approach was validated when Villa Capriccio sold swiftly despite a challenging market. The reason for this remarkable ability to strike a chord and create homes that stand out must lie in the fact that for Pierre this is not work, it is a labour of love – a passion for the creative process and seeing it through from inspecting the plot and conceiving of the design concept to perfecting every detail until a stunning new villa has been completed.

The same philosophy shaped Brisas 48, a property in Nueva Andalucía with direct access to Las Brisas golf course. Faced with zoning restrictions, Pierre reimagined the existing structure, introducing contemporary wings that extended towards the garden and entertainment areas.

DEFYING CONVENTION

Brisas 48 was a bold departure from prevailing trends. While white minimalism dominated the market, Pierre opted for warm, earthy tones, wood finishes, and a slate roof that modernised the villa's original profile. In doing so, he was actually ahead of a trend that

is now sweeping the coast, but it was not evident at the time. Despite breaking the so-called mould of property development, the villa found an enthusiastic buyer. As Pierre has proven time and again, when a developer has the courage to follow their creative instincts to produce a home that is truly unique and of the highest quality, the right buyer will always find it.

CONSTANT EVOLUTION

"We all learn as we go," Pierre reflects. "Our villas continue to evolve, but the passion remains unchanged." His latest masterpiece, Villa Taliesin, stands as a testament to this refinement. Named

after another famous Wright design, the villa – clad in Travertine stone – embraces mid-century modern influences and occupies a prime location in Cascada de Camoján. Pierre envisioned its cantilevered wings as soon as he stepped onto the site, allowing the natural landscape to shape his design philosophy.

“I got the sense of the orientation and

distribution of the villa when I walked onto the plot. It’s where I thought of the cantilevered look of the two wings that make up the house and also realised that the garden as you approach the home is one of the main elements that gives this property such a special feeling. I wanted to preserve and indeed highlight it by integrating the architectural design into the setting.” >



Beautiful symmetry and timeless style



EXPANDING THE PORTFOLIO

Simultaneously, Pierre undertook the design of Los Angeles 184 and 185 – two stylish modern villas near the beach in Nueva Alcántara. Recognising the importance of interiors, he collaborated with Pedro Peña, whose expertise added significant value. Likewise, his partnership with Solvilla ensures seamless commercial execution, allowing Pierre to focus on what he does best: creating extraordinary homes.

LOOKING AHEAD

Pierre's newest ventures include two exceptional properties: one in Cascada de

Camoján, adjacent to Villa Taliesin, and another in Nagüeles. While the Camoján project maximises breathtaking sea views, the Nagüeles villa is envisioned as a lush private retreat. "We're in the design phase, but soon Solvilla will have all the details of what could be my finest work yet," Pierre teases. With his passion and creativity at the helm, these upcoming projects are bound to be remarkable additions to Marbella's luxury landscape. 

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: SOLVILLA

TEL: (+34) 952 765 060

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A stylish modern villa close to the beach and San Pedro



—The next Generation of Real Estate has *arrived*—



Casa Las Palmeras

LAS BRISAS, NUEVA ANDALUCÍA · REF TA8065

BEDS	5	BUILT	1,257 M ²
BATH	6	TERRACE	440 M ²
PLOT	2,563 M ²	PRICE	8,950,000 €

Villa Las Palmeras blends modern elegance with traditional charm in the heart of Las Brisas, offering privacy and proximity to top golf courses and amenities. Its spacious design includes a central patio that fills the home with natural light, while the master suite features an outdoor shower with stunning golf course views.

Designed for comfort and entertainment, the villa boasts a 250M² basement with a private cinema, spa, gym, and direct garden access. Multiple TV rooms and beautifully landscaped outdoor spaces provide the perfect setting for relaxation. A true luxury retreat in one of Marbella's most desirable locations.



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Villa Zero

MARBELLA GOLDEN MILE · REF TA0268

BEDS	5	BUILT	1,318 M ²
BATH	5	TERRACE	387 M ²
PLOT	1,602 M ²	PRICE	11,300,000 €



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Villa Vista

VILLA MARBESA, MARBELLA · REF TA0574

BEDS	4	BUILT	405 M ²
BATH	4	TERRACE	111 M ²
PLOT	800 M ²	PRICE	3,669,000 €



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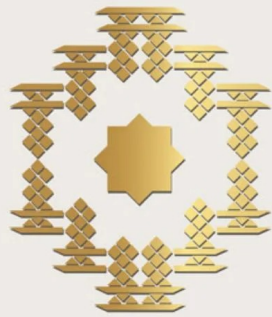
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COMPILED BY MARISA CUTILLAS

HOT NEW MOVIES

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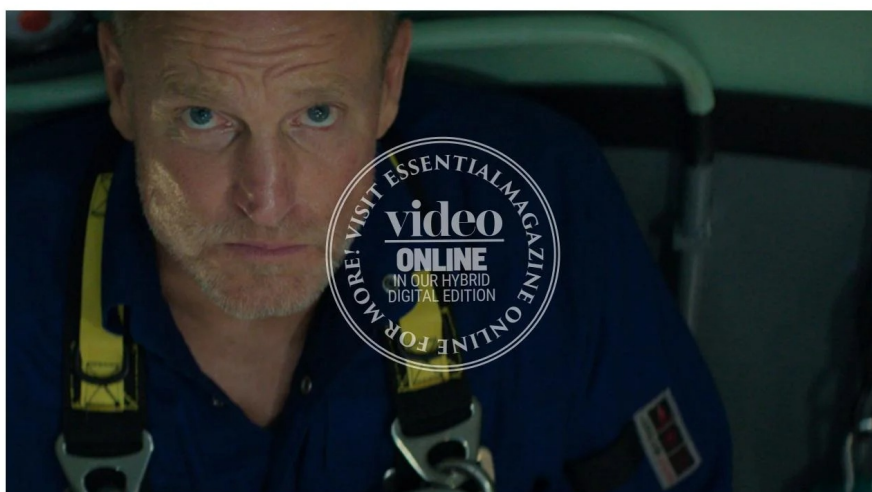
LAST BREATH

» **Director:** Alex Parkinson (*Lucy, the Human Chimp*)

» **Genre:** Thriller

» **Cast:** Woody Harrelson, Simu Liu, Finn Cole

The true story of three seasoned deep-sea divers, members of a team of saturation divers, who work to maintain undersea gas lines in the North Sea. While on rotation, they and their fellow divers live in a vessel in pressurised chambers that simulate conditions similar to those found approximately 300 feet below sea level. On one deployment, their vessel's positioning system experiences a malfunction, causing their ship to drift away from the worksite and trapping one of the divers beneath the sea with no oxygen to sustain him.



IT TAKES A SPY TO HUNT A SPY

BLACK BAG

» Director: Steven Soderbergh
(Traffic)

» Genre: Spy Thriller

» Cast: Michael Fassbender, Cate Blanchett, Pierce Brosnan

Black Bag is a gripping spy drama about legendary intelligence agents George Woodhouse and his beloved wife Kathryn. When she is suspected of betraying the nation by stealing something that could cause immense damage, George and his colleagues are ordered to find the culprit. George faces the ultimate test – loyalty to his marriage or his country.





A MINECRAFT MOVIE

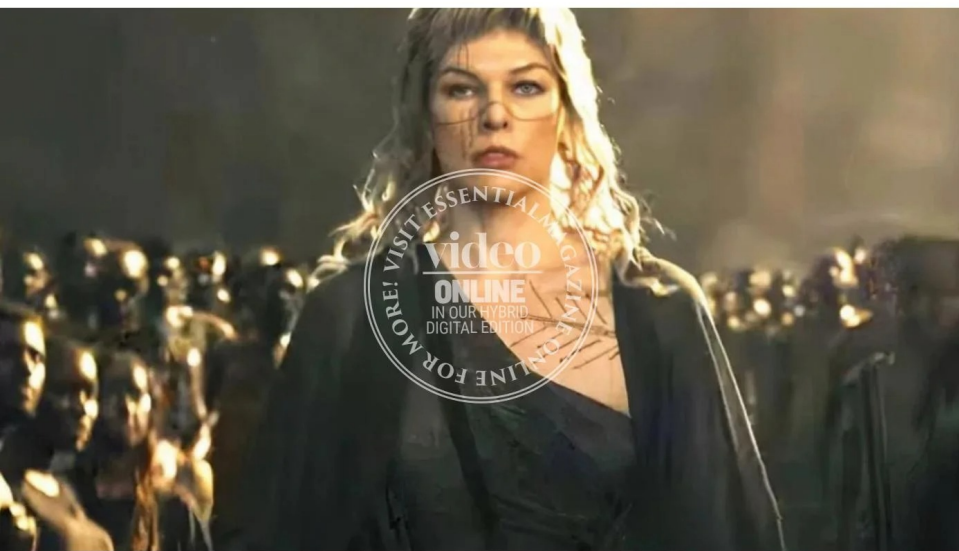
» **Director:** Jared Hess
(*Napoleon Dynamite*)

» **Genre:** Fantasy

» **Cast:** Jack Black, Jason Momoa,
Jennifer Coolidge

Four misfits are struggling to overcome their everyday problems when they are suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into the Overworld: a bizarre, cubic wonderland that thrives on imagination. To return home, they must master its challenges and protect each other from evil creatures like piglins and zombies. Each adventurer will find they can succeed if they harness their creativity and the unique talents that turn them into heroes.





IN THE LOST LANDS

» **Director:** Paul W.S. Anderson (*Resident Evil: Apocalypse*)

» **Genre:** Dark Fantasy

» **Cast:** Mila Jovovich, Dave Bautista, Fraser James

A queen sends the powerful and feared sorceress Gray Alys to the ghostly wilderness of the Lost Lands in search of a magical power, where the sorceress and her guide, the drifter Boyce, must outwit and outfight man and demon. *In the Lost Lands* is based on a book by Game of Thrones creator, George R.R. Martin.



THE END

» **Director:** Joshua Oppenheimer (*The Act of Killing*)

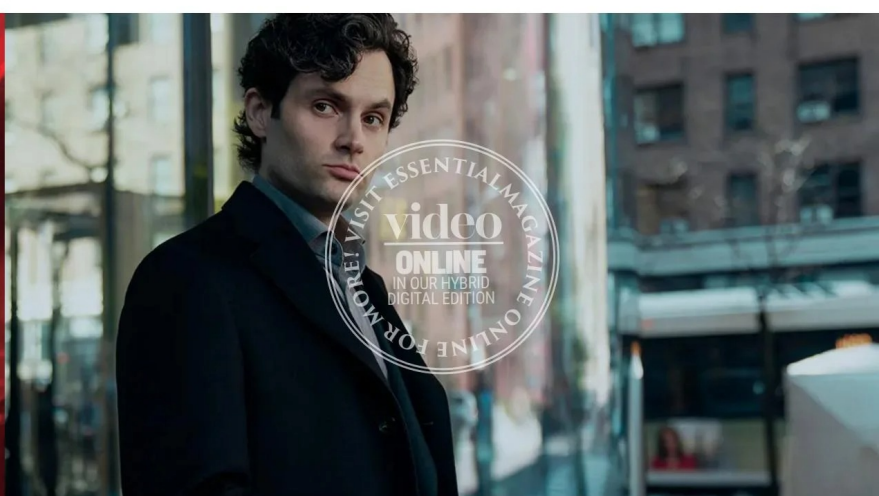
» **Genre:** Fantasy

» **Cast:** Tilda Swinton, Michael Shannon, George MacKay

Some 25 years after an environmental collapse renders Planet Earth uninhabitable, Mother, Father and Son are confined to a salt mine that serves as a palatial bunker. They struggle to maintain hope and a sense of normalcy by clinging to the rituals of daily life, until the arrival of a stranger ('Girl'), disrupts their happy routine. **e**

COMPILED BY MARISA CUTILLAS

HOT NEW SERIES



YOU S5, NETFLIX

» **Creators:** Greg Berlanti (*Brothers and Sisters*) and Sera Gamble (*Supernatural*)

» **Genre:** Psychological Thriller

» **Cast:** Penn Badgley, Charlotte Ritchie, Madeline Brewer

Diehard *You* fans are sad but excited about the fifth season of *You*, which is also its last. Talented actor Penn Badgley plays Joe – a serial killer whose victims always happen to be women he ‘falls in love with’ and grows obsessed with. This season sees Joe return to New York City to live peacefully. However, he becomes haunted by his past and his dream of peace slowly but surely transforms into a nightmare.

THE LAST OF US

S2, HBO

» **Creators:** Craig Mazin (*Chernobyl*)
and Neil Druckmann (*Uncharted*)

» **Genre:** Science Fiction

» **Cast:** Pedro Pascal, Bella Ramsey,
Kaitlyn Dever

Based on a popular video game franchise of the same name, the series is set twenty years into a pandemic caused by a mass fungal infection, which causes its hosts to transform into zombie-like creatures. In the first season, Joel (Pedro Pascal) was a hardened survivor who was tasked with smuggling a girl called Ellie out of a quarantine zone and across the U.S. The second season, based on the game *The Last of Us Part II*, follows Joel and Ellie five years after the events of the first season. It also introduces us to a new character, Abby (Kaitlyn Dever) – a soldier seeking vengeance for a loved one.



YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

SI, APPLE TV+

» **Creator:** Jonathan Tropper
(*Banshee*)

» **Genre:** Drama

» **Cast:** Jon Hamm, Amanda Peet,
Olivia Munn

Andrew 'Coop' Cooper is a hedge fund manager who has been disgracefully fired from his job and who is coming to terms with his recent divorce. He resorts to burglary to maintain his lifestyle in the affluent village of Westmont, and unwittingly discovers secrets and affairs hidden behind the seemingly perfect lives of his neighbours. One day, he makes the fatal mistake of breaking into the wrong home.





ANDOR (*SI, DISNEY+*)

» **Creator:** Tony Gilroy (*The Bourne Legacy*)

» **Genre:** Action

» **Cast:** Diego Luna, Kyle Soller, Stellan Skarsgård

Andor is set five years before the events of *Rogue One* (2016) and *A New Hope* (1977). It is centred on the formation of a Rebel Alliance to oppose the Galactic Empire. One of these mavericks is Cassian Andor, a thief and scavenger whose home planet, Kenari, was rendered uninhabitable by the Galactic Empire. Andor starts out as a cynic but soon develops into a man who is passionate about saving the galaxy, as we saw in *Rogue One*.



RANSOM CANYON *SI, NETFLIX*

» **Creator:** April Blair
(*Wednesday*)

» **Genre:** Romantic Western

» **Cast:** Josh Duhamel, Minka Kelly, James Brolin

Saddle up for the new Western saga, *Ransom Canyon*, which follows three ranching families whose lives become intertwined. The story focuses on three main characters: Staten Kirkland, a rugged rancher who is struggling with the loss of his wife and son; Lucas Reyes, a young ranch hand with little money but big ambitions; and Yancy Grey, an ex-convict seeking redemption while working at a local retirement home. **e**

READING

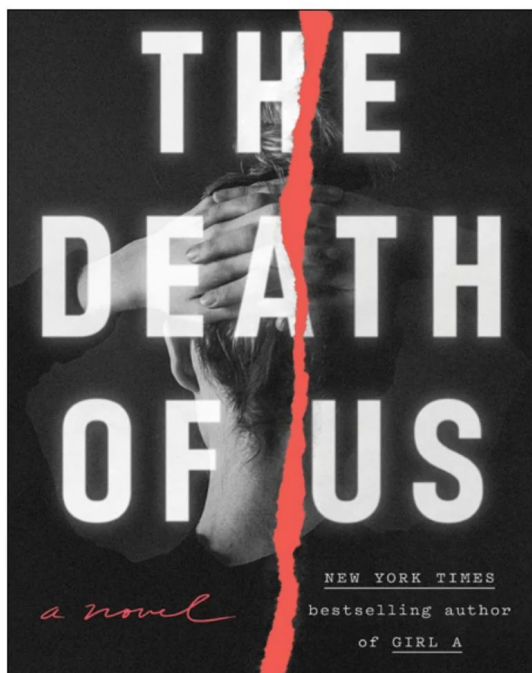
MUST-READ BOOKS TO DIVE INTO THIS APRIL

WORDS **ALICIA DUGGAN** OF THE BOOKSHOP IN SAN PEDRO DE ALCÁNTARA , CC LA COLONIA LOCAL 21, SAN PEDRO DE ALCÁNTARA. TEL: 951 779 785. WWW.THEBOOKSHOPS



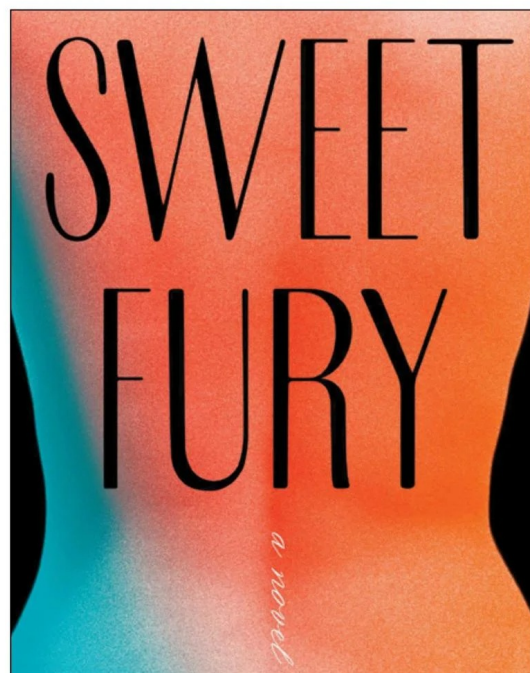
GREAT BIG BEAUTIFUL LIFE BY EMILY HENRY

Alice Scott is an optimistic, aspiring writer. Hayden Anderson is a brooding Pulitzer winner. When they arrive on Little Crescent Island, both vying to write the biography of the elusive Margaret Ives, a former tabloid princess and heir to a scandalous fortune, they expect competition. What they don't expect is the mystery Margaret weaves around them. Margaret offers them each a trial month, feeding them separate pieces of her story, bound by NDAs that prevent them from comparing notes. As Alice and Hayden struggle to uncover the truth, and resist the undeniable pull between them, they realise Margaret's story isn't the only one at stake. Brimming with wit, romance, and intrigue, *Great Big Beautiful Life* is a sweeping tale of ambition, storytelling, and the blurred lines between truth and fiction.



THE DEATH OF US
BY ABIGAIL DEAN

When Edward and Isabel were thirty, their home was invaded by a serial killer. The violent attack shattered their marriage, exposing hidden fractures that had always existed. Now, nearly three decades later, they are reunited at their attacker's trial, forced to confront the trauma that defined them, and the love that still lingers. Isabel has spent years preparing for this moment, determined to speak her truth, and finally let go of the past. Edward, now remarried and living a different life, isn't so sure he wants to revisit the nightmare. But as they face the man who nearly destroyed them, they must ask: Can justice bring closure? And if it does, what comes next? A gripping blend of psychological suspense and emotional depth, *The Death of Us* is a powerful exploration of love, trauma, and the secrets we carry.

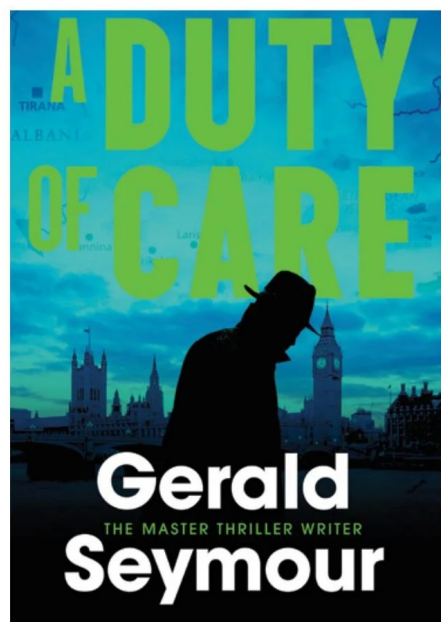


SWEET FURY
BY SASH BISCHOFF

When America's sweetheart, Lila Crayne, is cast in a feminist adaptation of *Tender Is the Night*, her perfect life begins to fracture. With a dazzling career, a visionary filmmaker fiancé, and a dream apartment in the West Village, Lila seems to have it all. But as she prepares for the role, her sessions with charismatic therapist Jonah Gabriel unearth long-buried trauma, leaving her vulnerable to forces she can't control. As the lines between reality and performance blur, Lila finds herself caught in a dangerous game of revenge, where everyone has a secret, and no one is who they seem. A gripping psychological thriller set against the glamour and deception of Hollywood, *Sweet Fury* is a razor-sharp critique of power, misogyny, and the stories we tell, about ourselves and each other.

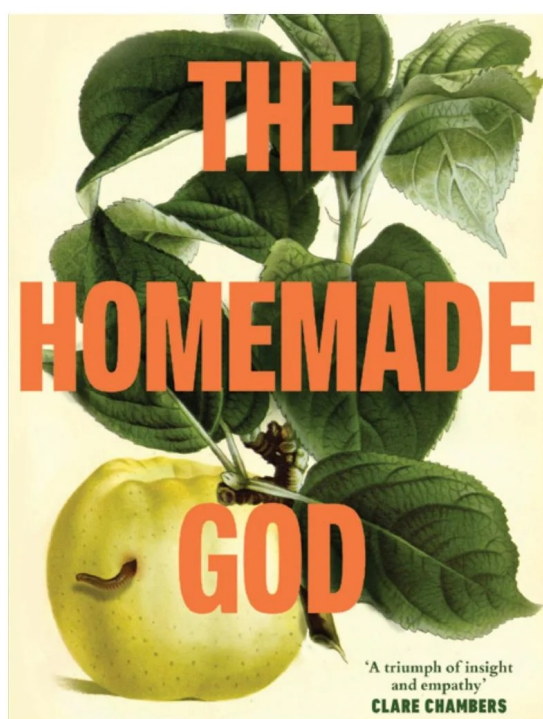
A DUTY OF CARE BY GERALD SEYMOUR

Once a legendary MI5 intelligence analyst, Jonas Merrick has been relegated to the Post Room, awaiting retirement. But when an MI6 agent hatches a daring plan to free a prisoner from a Russian gulag, Merrick is called back into action. His mission: intercept an Albanian courier linked to a powerful criminal syndicate laundering money for Russia's elite. However, when the courier turns out to be the heir to the gang's ruthless leader, the stakes skyrocket. As betrayals mount and tensions spiral into violence, Merrick must navigate a deadly web of espionage, power, and retribution. Frighteningly relevant and masterfully plotted, *A Duty of Care* marks the return of Jonas Merrick, one of modern spy fiction's most compelling figures.



THE HOMEMADE GOD BY RACHEL JOYCE

When world-famous artist Vic Kemp dies suddenly at his Italian summer home, his four adult children arrive to settle his affairs, only to find his will and final masterpiece missing. Weeks earlier, Vic shocked them by announcing his marriage to Bella-Mae, a beautiful young artist nearly 50 years his junior. Now, as they share a tense summer under the same roof, they must unravel the mystery of their father's last days and confront the wounds of their past. Who is Bella-Mae? Vic's muse and true love, or a threat to everything they hold dear. As old resentments and long-buried secrets surface, the siblings are forced to question their loyalties, their family's legacy, and what it truly means to belong. With wit and heart, *The Homemade God* is a moving exploration of grief, identity, and the fragile ties that bind us. ☹



» VISIT THE BOOKSHOP



DELUXE PENTHOUSE

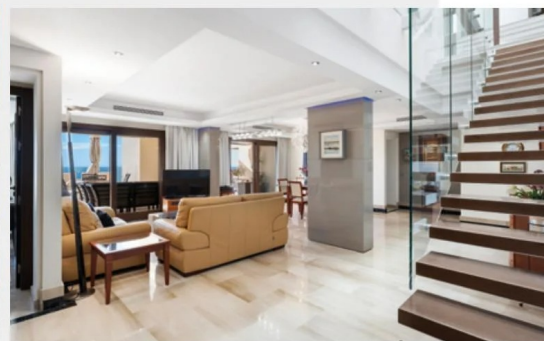
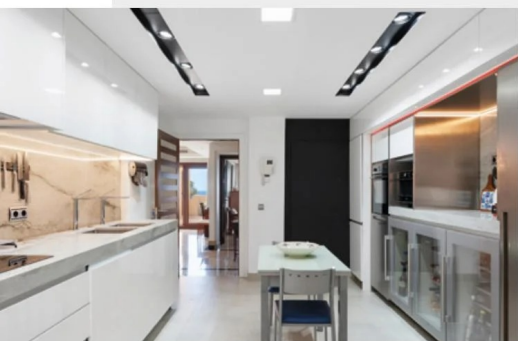


BAHÍA DE LA PLATA – ESTEPONA

You cannot fail to be taken aback by these 360 degree views, from this unique Duplex Penthouse which is one-of-a-kind with 6 bedroom suites and completely frontline to the beach, with 2 private pools (one heated). If you need 6 bedrooms, then It's perfect, if you prefer a rental return great, or maybe you want an office or play room or both? The property is sold furnished and benefits from 3 garages and 2 storerooms and the community is well served by Gym / Spa / Paddle tennis / Sup storage as well as a fabulous beach restaurant. Bahia de la Plata Estepona is an exclusive residential development nestled in the picturesque coastal town of Estepona, located on Spain's renowned Costa del Sol. This luxurious community is celebrated for its stunning beachfront properties, offering residents panoramic views of the Mediterranean Sea with direct access to pristine sandy beaches.

Price: €3,850,000

Bedrooms: 6 | Bathrooms: 6 | Built: 406 m² | Terrace: 170 m²



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SAFE TRAVELS

Travel is universally hailed as one of the most exciting experiences human beings can enjoy. It opens minds, introduces us to new cultures, and tempts us with an array of foods we've never tried before. But there's one thing many people fear about it – germs! During air travel and other forms of travel in enclosed compartments, there is a risk of encountering numerous viruses and bacteria, including Staphylococcus Aureus (which can cause serious infections), E.coli (which can cause intestinal infections), Norovirus (which can cause stomach and intestinal infections), and Streptococcus Pneumoniae (also known as the pneumonia virus).

WORDS **MARISA CUTILLAS**

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO KEEP GERMS AT BAY?

If you've just booked a flight, know that there is plenty you can do to lower your risk of disease. You can wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your face, consume a healthy diet, and be aware of the most germ-ridden areas on

a plane. According to the NP Istanbul Brain Hospital, these areas include seat pockets (where magazines and safety instructions are kept), seatbelts, food trays, restrooms, and overhead lockers. Keep sanitary wipes on hand to clean surfaces before and after you touch them. Also, choose

window rather than aisle seats, as the latter are more exposed to human traffic.

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

There are also many technological advances that can help to reduce the volume of bacteria and viruses you are exposed to. These include:

HEALTHY JOURNEYS WITH INNOVATIVE ANTIMICROBIAL SOLUTIONS

» ANTIMICROBIAL LED

TECHNOLOGY: Delta Airlines and the company Vyv have developed a violet-tinged UV-Free light that kills viruses like SARS-CoV-2, bacteria, fungi, yeast, mold, mildew, and odours. This technology is already being used in many buses, gyms, planes, and more. Just look at what one business owner has to say about it: "We used to do deep chemical cleaning every two months for mould. Now, it's six. You simply have to look to see a definite improvement. And our patrons love the violet lights!"

» ANTIMICROBIAL LUGGAGE:

Research carried out by AQUAINT found that luggage can encounter up to 80 million bacteria before it reaches a hotel room. This is largely due to the number of people and places it comes into contact with throughout each journey, such as taxi drivers, baggage handlers, and airline crew. If you're ready to renew your collection of luggage, check out Samsonite's Antimicrobial Travel Essentials Collection. It features product protection against the growth of bacteria and mould. Treated items include luggage covers, backpack covers, packing cube sets, neck pillow covers, and luggage handle wrap sets.

» BIO-BURDEN-REDUCING

PLASTICS AND TEXTILES:

Antimicrobial plastics are being integrated into high-touch surfaces like elevator buttons, handrails, countertops, and seating to reduce the chances of germ transmission. These plastics prevent the growth of germs, thereby limiting pathogen spread in areas like airport lounges and aeroplane bathrooms.

Similarly, new textiles have been developed to reduce germ counts in environments such as staff uniforms, aeroplane seats, and cruise ship bedding. For instance, research and development firm KluraLabs has developed a special bio-burden-reducing plastic that is free of heavy metals. Its textile formulation has achieved an impressive 99.999% reduction in *Staphylococcus epidermidis* even after being washed 50 times! That means it's highly suitable for applications in healthcare and travel industries, where frequent washing is necessary.

» HEPA AND ANTIMICROBIAL

AIR FILTRATION:

HEPA filters are popular devices in many homes because they remove 99.97 per cent of particles measuring a tiny 0.3 microns in diameter. They also filter

away almost 100 per cent of bacteria such as *Brevundimonas diminuta*, *Bacillus subtilis*, and *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, as well as many fungi. Some innovative filters now contain advanced systems to capture bacteria, viruses, and mould spores, greatly reducing the risk of airborne disease transmission. As such, airlines such as Qatar Airways have adopted state-of-the-art HEPA filtration systems that are now capable of removing 99.997 per cent of viral and bacterial contaminants from the air.

» ECO-FRIENDLY ANTIMICROBIAL SOLUTIONS:

Antimicrobial technologies of the past often depended on heavy metals like silver or copper, which can harm the environment. Today, far more sustainable alternatives are emerging, including non-active ingredient solutions for hospital gloves and food handling, which provide ultra-effective protection while being eco-friendly.

Knowing that antimicrobial technologies exist can reassure travellers who are worried about illness during travel. From lighting to surfaces, filtration to gloves, there are many innovations working together so we can obtain the most out of travel and enjoy optimal health. 



Marvel at the stylish architecture that characterises Vitae Villas. Step inside the spectacular Villa HG from DM Properties. Check out stunning couture from Susana Hidalgo. Learn about caring for chinchillas, and understand the importance of decluttering.

lifestyle

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WORDS **SARA PALOMA LUCAS** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **VITAE VILLAS, MARIO MORENO PHOTOGRAPHY**

Marbella has long been synonymous with luxury, offering a unique blend of glamour, natural beauty, and an unbeatable Mediterranean lifestyle. Once known primarily as a jet-set destination, Marbella has transformed into a sought-after location for year-round living. With international buyers increasingly choosing to call it home, the real estate market is evolving, bringing in innovative design concepts, sustainable developments, and a fresh approach to luxury. One company leading this change is Vitae Villas. More than just a real estate developer, Vitae Villas is setting new standards for luxury homes, where architectural elegance meets environmental harmony.

Vitae Villas 13 @VitaeVillas

MARBELLA REAL ESTATE TRENDS

The real estate market in Marbella has undergone a remarkable transformation in recent years. There is a shift towards sustainability and innovative designs, with buyers seeking eco-efficient technologies such as solar panels and water recycling systems. Additionally, there is

a growing demand for homes that blend modernity with natural elements, featuring large windows for natural light and the use of organic materials like stone and wood.

Another notable trend in luxury living is the integration of wellness and nature. Buyers are increasingly prioritising healthy living environments, with amenities such as home

spas, yoga spaces, and energy-efficient cooling systems.

Moreover, flexibility in living spaces has become essential, with open floor plans and easy transitions between indoor and outdoor areas creating an open atmosphere. Vitae Villas perfectly aligns with these trends by offering homes that combine privacy, luxury, and ecological responsibility. ›

VITAE VILLAS

REDEFINING LUXURY LIVING IN
HARMONY WITH NATURE

INTEGRATING INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

Vitae Villas operates with a holistic approach to development, harnessing iconic disciplines in design and development. Each villa is a unique architectural statement that reflects ancient principles and innovative

ideas, one of which stands for maximum integration. The design is based on the terrain and views, adapting to the topography of the land and blending seamlessly into the natural surroundings. Inspired by the Mid-Century modern architecture of California, the villas exemplify clean

lines, open spaces, and a strong connection between indoor and outdoor living. By integrating interiors with the outside areas, the villas become expansive and light. And the surrounding landscape becomes part of the living environment. Embracing environmental features, natural resources, and the local climate, the villas exemplify sustainable design that is naturally attractive and beautiful. ›



Vitae Villas I4 @VitaeVillas

Vitae Villas K3&K4 @VitaeVillas

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THE TEAM BEHIND VITAE VILLAS

The success of Vita Villas is attributed to a team of international real estate professionals with over 30 years of experience in high-end design, construction, and development in the Netherlands and Spain – including the Costa del Sol. They have witnessed

Marbella's evolution and have roots in the community which lend a deep understanding and appreciation for the local environment, culture, and lifestyle.

Working with world class architects and interior designers, Vitae Villas has created its own style, ensuring a unique aesthetic that sets Vitae Villas apart. The

multidisciplinary development team is closely involved on all aspects of every project, from architectural sketch to final project – and turnkey completion for those who wish a furnished and accessorised home. With each project, they aspire to create homes that feel comfortable, elegant and suited to this Mediterranean setting.





Vitae Villas F28 @
MarioMorenoPhotography



LIKE A PENTHOUSE IN NATURE

The concept of Vitae Villas can be described as a 'penthouse in nature.' The villas are embedded in the natural terrain, adapting to the mountain and merging with their surroundings to offer residents an unparalleled connection to nature. Rather than imposing upon the terrain, the architectural design follows the mountain's shape and slope, allowing it to blend harmoniously with its surroundings. The result offers spectacular gravity-defying structures with wraparound terraces and panoramic views. The designs honour the beauty of the setting and maximise the mountain and sea views from the various perspectives. Spacious floor plans and outdoor living areas provide comfort and luxury without the upkeep of a large estate, representing a new approach to high-end living.

ORGANIC AND SUSTAINABLE LUXURY

Sweeping overhangs characterise each villa, serving both as attractive architectural features and clever shading elements. Calculated with precision based on the position of the sun throughout the seasons, they provide protection from the high summer sun – and allow the low winter rays to warm the villa's living spaces. Each villa is equipped with state-of-the-art climate control – but you probably won't need to use it often. It is an example of smart, sustainable design that Vitae Villas has become known for. ›



Strategically placed internal garden patios, which serve as 'thermal chimney' elements, generate internal airflow to keep the villa naturally cool in the hot summer months. These green patios enhance indoor air quality and comfort but also serve as attractive internal gardens: lush, green, organic installations within the home – and another example of the integration of inside and outside spaces.

EMBRACING THE MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE

In a region known for its sunny climate, solar panels on the upper green roof harness the renewable energy source. The specially constructed roofs capture and absorb precious rainwater to avoid erosion and support the nourishment of the rooftop flora. Water drainage and ventilation around the embedded structure ensure a solid and insulated home.

As an extension of the green roofs, the villa's natural green landscape is the garden, featuring native plants, selected for their drought resilience and low maintenance requirements, fortifying the local biodiversity while blending with the indigenous environment. There are no green lawns or demanding flower beds, rather a seasonal cycle of flowering shrubs, plants and trees that dot the surrounding mountain terrain.

AMBIENCE

HOME DESIGN



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By ANDREA BÖCK

Strategically placed internal garden patios, which serve as 'thermal chimney' elements, generate internal airflow to keep the villa naturally cool in the hot summer months. These green patios enhance indoor air quality and comfort but also serve as attractive internal gardens: lush, green, organic installations within the home – and another example of the integration of inside and outside spaces.

CRAFTSMANSHIP AND NATURAL MATERIALS

While the villa structures are expansive and spacious, the living spaces are

designed to feel intimate and elegant with the use of natural wood, local stone, and an organic colour palette. Much attention is placed on the lighting scheme, including subtle architectural, decorative and at times specially curated vintage fixtures. All carpentry and woodwork are completed by craftsmen and reflect the attention to materials and quality details in every room and space. And the villa's gardens showcase local, indigenous plants that reflect the wild surrounding landscape. Each interior and exterior space is an authentic and sophisticated design and a reflection of the Vitae Villas signature style and philosophy.



Vitae Villas 14 @VitaeVillas



EXPANSION FOR 2025

The villas are nestled high in Monte Mayor, a luxury enclave in the foothills of Benahavís, a respite along a natural preserve just a short drive from the bustling beach towns. The combination of tranquility and accessibility makes this locale an ideal choice for those who seek privacy and serenity.

Vitae Villas continues to expand with

developments in Real de La Quinta – the new prestigious Marbella development situated just above the coastline. And there is demand in other high-end urbanisations and sites along the coast, including an elevated position in Mijas. The expansion will bring the same commitment to refined luxury and the nature-integrated design along the coast. ›

Vitae Villas F28 @
MarioMorenoPhotography



Vitae Villas I2 @VitaeVillas

Vitae Villas I3 @
VitaeVillas

TIMELESS DESIGN AND NATURAL REFINEMENT

In the heart of the Costa del Sol, where the mountains meet the Mediterranean Sea, Vitae Villas is a prime example of luxury living in harmony with nature. This concept embodies Marbella's latest real estate trends, with natural refinement and timeless design at its core. It represents a new approach in luxury real estate, where ecological responsibility and high-end design go hand in hand. The project offers a unique lifestyle that is both refined and in harmony with nature, making it an attractive option for the modern, conscious buyer. It is no wonder that Vitae Villas continues to attract an international clientele that seeks



authentic design and sustainable principles without compromising on comfort, convenience, and luxury. 

VITAEVILLAS.COM

MASTER BROKER: KAREN DADONN

TEAM - REAL ESTATE MARBELLA



Vitae Villas 12 @VitaeVillas

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INTERIOR DESIGN



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Architectural styles come and go, evolving all the time. Many follow such trends slavishly, while others have the courage and creativity to offer a fresh new take on prevailing style movements – and in the process contribute to their further development. This gorgeous contemporary Mediterranean villa in La Quinta is a fine example.

Following a gently curving road at the heart of La Quinta's deep greenery takes you to the gateway of Villa HG (short for The Hidden Gem of the Golf Valley) that stands proudly atop a hill looking back over the verdant golf course and wooded hillside to the sea. The sense that this is a truly privileged setting is immediate, as the home is not isolated yet has the feeling of a private oasis within this little green paradise just a short distance from downtown Marbella. >

Villa HG, a contemporary interpretation of the classic Marbella villa

VILLA HG

A FRESH TAKE ON MARBELLA LIVING

WORDS **MICHEL CRUZ** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **DM PROPERTIES** **KNIGHT FRANK**





The driveway, hand-cut and hand laid in Portuguese *pedra calçada*, leads to the forecourt of the villa, on to an open air parking area and down to the elegant gallery garage that can house up to six cars in comfort. Your immediate attention, however, is drawn to the impressive front door which, surrounded by equally imposing double-height windows, is a contemporary version of the grand entrances of old.

Step inside and the unmistakable impact of a classic Marbella villa hits you – views that follow a straight line from the elegant hallway through the living room, terrace and pool to the Mediterranean glistening beyond. When you focus back in, what you see

is a modern version of the staircases that sweep down from the upper floor. Instead of curved, however, their symmetry is more angular – adding all the more impact to the visual effect created.

WHEN YOU WANT A VILLA TO BE SPECIAL, DESIGN IT AS YOUR IDEAL HOME

Designed by Antonio Morillo of AMES Arquitectos, the force behind this impressive modern villa is an experienced boutique developer who designed it to be his own home. “For this reason, it is a property where form and function are well balanced, creating a versatility between style and entertaining on the one hand and comfortable, practical family life on the

other,” says the owner of the villa and a group of companies specialising in windows, doors, stone and marble, wood, textiles, and furniture manufacture.

And with this you begin to realise why this home feels so familiar and yet somehow refreshingly different. Though the owner has gone to great lengths to honour the Mediterranean architectural tradition that gives a Marbella villa its style and character, he has approached it with an innovative vision, shaping spaces and creating proportions that flow and function well. Added to this is a range of marble and stone sourced in Turkey that captivates the eye. ›

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The infinity edge pool that merges with the sea on the horizon

Just like the property itself, these finishes are not a dramatic departure from what we are used to in a Marbella villa, but instead give the eye and the senses something exciting and new to absorb. From the matt limestone floors in the

living quarters and bespoke woodwork in the bedrooms to the beautifully detailed and richly veined marble in the kitchen and bathrooms, the result is engaging and complements the custom-made furniture for this home.

Lounging, dining and a professional kitchen and bar



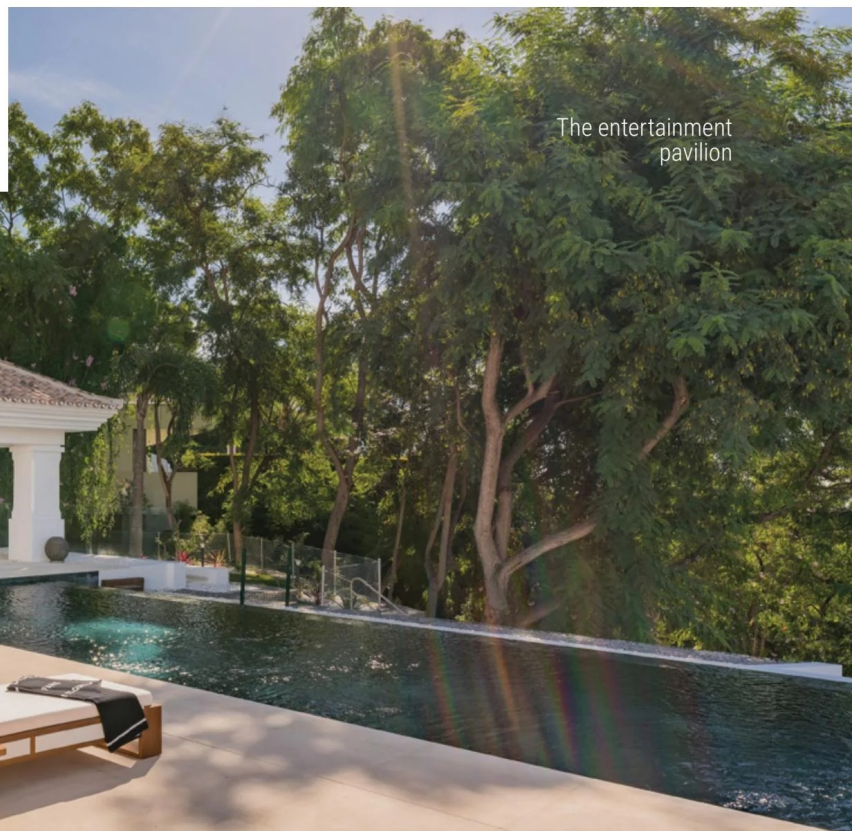
A VILLA MADE-TO-MEASURE

Everything, therefore, is bespoke – made specifically for this home – and from noble natural materials. “We choose natural wood, stone and marble because of the inimitable sensation they provide,” says the owner, for whom this has been a labour of love. The villa he has lovingly created enjoys a modern symmetry that aids the flow from the impressive entrance hallway to the other parts of the house.

The kitchen, which features a separate professional catering room and storage, merges seamlessly with a spacious dining room flanked on the one side by a sunny seating area that overlooks the garden, and by the main lounge on the other side. Beyond this is a private office that similarly bathes in natural light and looks out to the greenery that embraces the villa. Let the sliding doors glide open and you step out onto a large terrace. ›



Marble and stone feature predominantly in the picture-perfect spa



The entertainment pavilion





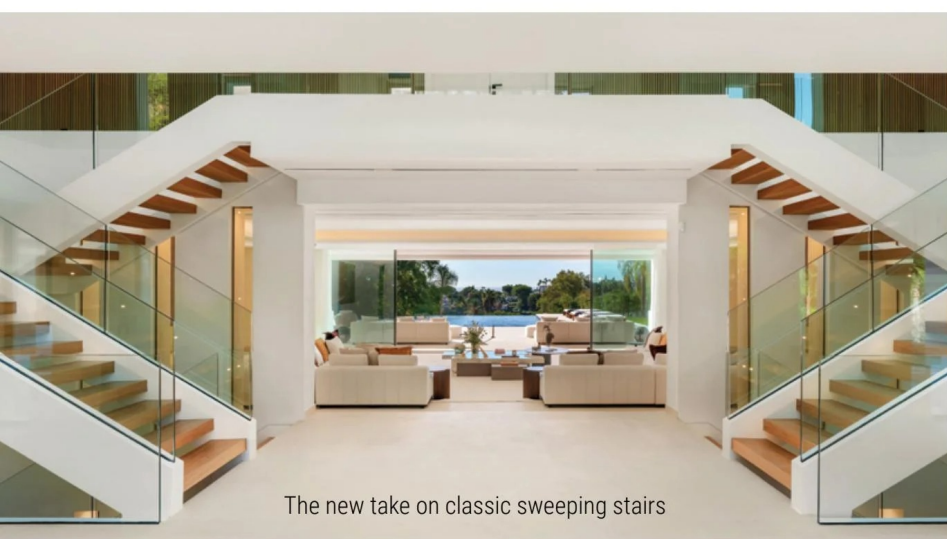
Spacious living room with made-to-measure furniture

Beyond the lounging, dining, and entertaining areas fronting a beautiful 25-metre swimming pool is a stylish pavilion with lounge, dining room, professional bar and kitchen, changing rooms, and a Balinese style outdoor shower facing a private part of the garden. The infinity edge pool that merges with the sea

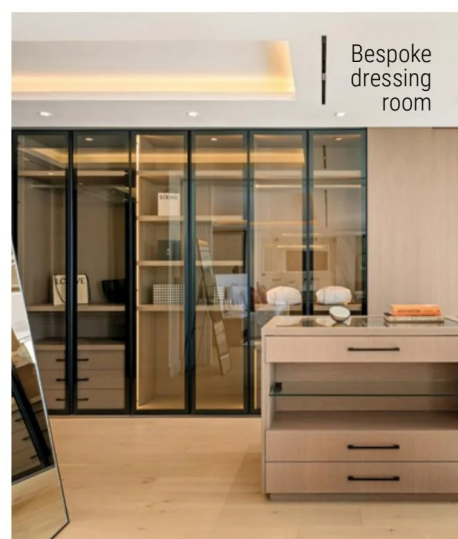
on the horizon is laid with natural stone that mesmerises the eye as it dances in the changing light between tones of dark green, black, grey, blue, and turquoise.

The lift and stairs provide access to a series of bedroom suites dressed in warm contemporary tones, each with elegant bathrooms and dressing

areas – and of course their own views of mountain, golf, and sea. They feature a good balance of proportions that provides a visual and sensory harmony between space and intimacy. As part of this, the master bedroom itself is flanked by a luxurious bathroom dressed in elegant marble, and a very complete dressing room. >



The new take on classic sweeping stairs



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The well-proportioned master suite

HOME RESORT

The lower floor, which connects with the garden, forms the 'private resort' within the home, containing as it does a wide variety of five-star amenities in the form of a bar and games area with bespoke pool table, a modern wine cellar, a gorgeously

comfortable cinema room with opulently relaxing sofas, and a spa with heated indoor swimming pool and integrated gymnasium.

Here too, the quality of the materials and detail of design stand out, combining cleverly thought out practical features with gorgeous natural cream-

and-gold toned marble walls and the same pool tiles that make the upper swimming pool such a delightful part of the home. Modern combines with natural to make this a timeless villa with a well-balanced flow that eases seamlessly from room to room. ›



Marbella at its most seductive



The gym enjoys the same natural light as the spa, which also contains an excellent Turkish steam bath inlaid with stone from the original country itself. An English patio allows sunlight and greenery to flow in here as in the private guest or staff suite that enjoys the same quality materials as the rest of the villa. This is also true of the spacious gallery garage, visible through grey-tinted glass from the lower floor's entertainment room. "In our work, we see many beautiful homes," says Pia Arrieta, Partner at DM Properties/Knight Frank, "but this villa has an impact that stays with you thanks to a fluent combination of volumes, materials, and detailing."

The ability to source and produce the stone, marble, wood, windows, doors, fabrics, and also furniture in a custom-fit way was a great benefit to the project. This flexibility reduced limitations and made so much more possible, opening the floodgates to creativity and enabling the creation of a truly special and singular home that is indeed a refreshing take on the timeless Marbella villa.

The result is a home that stands out for all the right reasons, enjoying a prime setting within the green embrace of La Quinta, where it provides the canvas for a privileged interpretation on the Marbella way of life. 

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A TRENDSETTER IN SPANISH FASHION

Recently, Susana Hidalgo shone as one of the highlights at the fourth edition of TENMOD, hosted at the prestigious Gran Hotel Miramar in Málaga. This event, a beacon in the local fashion scene, brings together the latest trends from established brands and showcases the bright new talents of tomorrow. Morning and afternoon runway shows filled the day, offering a platform for designers like Hidalgo to captivate an audience with their latest creations.

DISCOVERED BY **MADDIE QUINN** PHOTOGRAPHY **JOSE CORDERO**

SUSANNA HODALGO



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Susana launched her first collection at the International Fashion Show in Madrid in 2011. Her designs quickly gained recognition, and she has since been a regular at high-profile fashion events including the Marbella Fashion Show, Pasarela Sí, Quiero Madrid, and Larios Fashion Week in Málaga, where she was honoured with the 'Alfiler de Oro' for her career achievements.

Besides these runway successes, Susana has also made her mark as the official designer for the Linda y Guapo de España beauty pageant and as a candidate for Miss World Spain. ›







Her collaboration with global brands such as Ferrari and Nikon highlights her versatility and appeal to both fashion and commercial sectors. Susana's atelier is a celebrity favourite, known for its luxurious, custom-fitted garments that turn heads at every significant event.

If you are eager to see more of Susana Hidalgo's work or attend one of her shows, you can follow her journey and get updates on her next appearances by following her on Instagram.





SUSANA HIDALGO
@susanahidalgo_altacostura



Photography: Jose Cordero – @jose_cordero_foto
Model: Liseth Santos – @evasantosc para Nueva Moda
Producciones – @nmagency
Make up: Diana Hidalgo – @dianahidalgo_mua
Hair: Rafael Bueno – @rafaelbuenopeluqueros
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1

Lady Gaga's Haus Labs is now available at Sephora, offering high-tech, high-pigment, high-performance makeup products that combine science with nature and plenty of artistry. Far from concentrating on products that only make us look good, the brand is focused on giving us the tools we need to indulge our creativity and self-expression. What's more, every purchase supports the Born This Way Foundation, which aids the mental health of young people. All products are created with kindness; they are clean, cruelty-free, and **vegan**. CURATED BY **MARISA CUTILLAS**





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ANA MARIA IACOBESCU

A STORY OF TRIUMPH OVER TRAUMA

WORDS **MARISA CUTILLAS** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **ANA MARIA IACOBESCU**



Trauma affects everyone differently; its impact can be subtle, gradual, or downright destructive. For author Ana Maria Iacobescu, it had been a constant companion since childhood, a collection of

emotions that were so difficult to process they were buried in her subconscious. Many years later, they resurfaced in the form of debilitating anxiety and panic attacks. With the help of a therapist whose method resonated deeply with her, she was able to face, accept, and move beyond the wounds of

her inner child. She also wrote a profoundly meaningful book, *Wandering Mind Journey: The Secrets and Experiences of a Mind in Search of Balance and Meaning*, in which she shares her story and hopes to help others gain insight into themselves and progress toward a better, happier life.

“The paradox of trauma is that it has both the power to destroy and the power to transform and resurrect”

Peter A. Levine

One impactful event in Ana's transformation began when she arrived in Málaga for the first time with her ex-boyfriend. The couple had been living in England and decided to spend a holiday in Marbella. Things didn't go as Ana had planned. She explains, “He stole all my money and documents and left me with nothing. I had always loved the Coast, but after he left me, although I stayed for two years more, I had nothing left here.”

Ana moved beyond this relationship, meeting a new love from Romania at an airport and eventually marrying him. He was loving and supportive, says Ana, yet “When I met him, the trauma came back in the form of crippling anxiety. I was afraid to eat, breathe, and even leave my house. I lost twenty pounds, and my health plummeted.” A stroke of fortune for Ana came in the form of therapy imparted by a talented therapist with a unique method. Rather than subject Ana to endless thought reframing or typical journaling exercises, her therapist treated her for only two months, then advised her to go to Bali. “She

didn't want me to be dependent on therapy,” says Ana. “During our sessions, she shared many methods with me, including the use of mantras I could use to overcome trauma if it came into my life again.”

Ana followed her therapist's advice and experienced a profound spiritual awakening. “I felt a sense of joy being in Bali and exploring it with my husband,” she says. Travel is a great teacher, not only because it enables us to discover new cultures and ideas, but also because it deepens our self-understanding. “When you travel, you overcome fears you didn't even know you had,” says Ana. “For instance, I didn't know I feared flying.”

During her recovery, Ana relied on many techniques her therapist had shared with her during their sessions, including mindfulness practices, meditation, and crafting a family constellation. “I didn't know I had childhood trauma. I discovered it while envisioning my family constellation.” She explains, “This approach involves meditation and imagining your family all around you, even ancestors you have

never met. You then embrace each one of them. When I hugged my mother and father, I had a profound awakening. I realised that my father had rejected me because he had wanted a son, not a daughter.”

Ana's childhood trauma manifested itself in palpable ways, including stomach problems. “Through therapy, I discovered that my trauma was related to my mother's. When my father discovered I was not a boy, he became abusive toward her. While she was pregnant with me, she absorbed that pain and unknowingly transferred it to me. When I was born, I refused to eat, and I continued to have a difficult relationship with food until my trauma was resolved.”

Fascinatingly, her father's relationship with her older sister was another story. “He wanted his first child to be a girl, so there was no issue with her. I have a third sister, the youngest in our family. She also faced deep trauma. One of the reasons I wrote my book was to break the trauma cycle. I realised that if I didn't heal, I could pass trauma onto my children, and I didn't want that to happen.” >

Ana's sense of peace was interrupted when her husband suggested that the couple, who were living in England at the time, should head to Málaga. "He always loved Spain and wanted us to visit, but I associated Málaga with pain owing to what had happened with my ex-boyfriend." However, she and her husband decided to take the plunge and head to the Coast, where she would find a brand-new life – one of hope and triumph over adversity.

Ana's therapist, who was Romanian but lived in the UK, had practised in Tibet and seemed to have an uncanny way of asking questions that helped transform Ana's outlook. "At first, I was doubtful about her therapy. I felt it wasn't working, and I wasn't getting better. However, months later, her words returned to my mind, and she seemed to know things without my telling her." For instance, she recommended that Ana should read *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. "It's about a boy living in Andalucía who wants to discover his goal in life. He travels to Marrakech and Egypt but finds his purpose in Málaga. I cried when I read the book because I also discovered that I wanted to be in Málaga. When I left the Coast the first time, I left part of myself behind. My therapist didn't know my story of

abandonment, so it was uncanny that she recommended this book to me."

Today, Ana has built a great life for herself as a web designer (she had formerly worked as a cleaner). "I wake up, meditate, and do yoga. After that, I go for a walk, then return home and work. I eat healthily, don't smoke, and utilise the techniques my therapist taught me to avoid panic attacks." It is a far cry from her early years with her husband. "I was so scared to be alone, I would accompany him to work. I hardly ate because I had irrational fears that food was poisoned. I even ended up in the hospital."

Ana even found the strength to return to Romania. "I was no longer seeing my therapist, but every time fear or anxiety struck, I recalled her advice, she would tell me what to do in my mind. When I was in fear, her methods calmed me. Since I began seeing her, I've done many things I never thought I would do." Despite all the pain her father caused her, she says, "I forgave him. My sisters, however, no longer speak to him." 🌀

ANA IS TESTIMONY TO THE POWER OF THERAPY, SELF-AWARENESS, AND SELF-COMPASSION. SHE MAY HAVE BEEN TO HELL AND BACK, BUT SHE NOW KNOWS THAT TRAUMA DOESN'T DEFINE HER. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HER INCREDIBLE LIFE STORY, READ HER BOOK, WHICH IS AVAILABLE ON AMAZON AND FROM OTHER LEADING ONLINE STORES.





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WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY **BRANDI FREEZE**





Clutter isn't just physical – it's mental and emotional. It pulls attention, whispers unfinished tasks, and quietly drains energy. A space that should be restorative can instead feel overwhelming.

But clearing it out creates more than room to breathe – it opens space for clarity, focus, and a home that works for, not against.

WHEN CLUTTER TAKES OVER

Clutter sneaks up over time. A few extra things here, an overflowing drawer there, and suddenly, the home that once felt like a retreat starts feeling like another to-do list. Even small amounts of clutter can shift the energy of a space, turning it from cosy to chaotic. The difference isn't in achieving perfection – it's in making intentional choices about what stays and what moves on.

CREATING A BALANCED HOME

A balanced home isn't about strict minimalism; it's about finding what supports daily life. That may mean open surfaces and neatly labelled bins or open organisation that still has rhythm and function. The key is ensuring the environment enhances daily routines rather than working against them. Clearing out the excess (outdated clothes, unused kitchen gadgets, or sentimental items that no longer serve a purpose) can breathe new life into a home. When a space feels lighter, so does the mind. ›





THE BENEFITS OF DECLUTTERING

Decluttering goes beyond aesthetics. Studies link excess clutter to increased stress, decision fatigue, and even difficulty sleeping. A clearer space fosters calm, reducing mental fog and improving focus. There's also an energy shift when unnecessary items are released – suddenly, there's room for fresh ideas, new routines, and, practically speaking, less clutter means less time spent searching for things and more time enjoying a home that feels intentional and inviting.

SPRING CLEANING: A FRESH START

Spring is a natural time for renewal – windows open, fresh air flows in, and the heaviness

of winter lifts. Beyond dusting shelves, it's an opportunity to reset the energy of a home.

RETHINKING WARDROBES

Many hold onto clothes for versions of themselves they no longer are – jobs they've left, styles they've outgrown, or sizes they hope to fit into again. Instead of asking, "Do I like this?" a more useful question is, "Does this reflect who I am now?" Editing a wardrobe makes getting dressed easier and less frustrating.

THE ONE-YEAR RULE

If something hasn't been used in the past year or two, chances are it isn't essential. This applies to everything from gadgets to books to sentimental keepsakes. Letting go of what no longer serves

a purpose isn't about losing things – it's about gaining space and clarity.

TACKLING DIGITAL CLUTTER

Clutter isn't always physical. Unread emails, unused apps, and outdated files contribute to mental overload. Organising digital spaces (deleting, unsubscribing, and sorting) can go a long way in reducing daily distractions.

COMMON AREAS MATTER

Entryways, living rooms, and hallways accumulate clutter because they're high-traffic zones. Yet, these spaces set the tone for how a home feels. A quick sort-through (tidying shoes, clearing surfaces, organising mail) can make a home feel inviting rather than overwhelming. ›

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SMALL HABITS FOR LASTING CHANGE

Decluttering isn't a one-time event – it's a mindset shift. Maintaining balance doesn't have to be difficult. A five-minute tidy-up before bed prevents small messes from building up. Designating 'no-clutter zones' like countertops or bedside tables keeps key areas feeling fresh. Most importantly, giving yourself permission to let go of what no longer fits your life makes it easier to maintain a home that feels good.

ABOUT AIRY SPACES

Brandi, the founder of Airy Spaces, is based in Seville and passionate about helping people create functional and nurturing spaces. Specialising in decluttering and home organisation, Airy Spaces offers customised solutions that bring balance and harmony to homes while working towards a simpler, more intentional way of living.

FOR DECLUTTERING TIPS, CHALLENGES, AND INSPIRATION, VISIT WWW.AIRYSPACES.COM OR FOLLOW @AIRYSPACES ON SOCIAL MEDIA. HAPPY DECLUTTERING!





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WHY DOES EVERYBODY LOVE CHINCHILLAS?

WORDS **MARISA CUTILLAS**

Guinea pigs, chinchillas, and hamsters are among the most popular pets in the US, behind cats and dogs, according to World Atlas, and

these furry critters are also growing in popularity in Europe, Asia, and beyond. When it comes to pet rodents, there's little not to love; they are furry, cute, and relatively easy to care for. Perhaps the only thing that's 'bad' about them is how little

they live. Guinea pigs have an average lifespan of around five to six years, while hamsters have a more fleeting lifespan of just two to three years. Chinchillas, however, can live for 10 to 20 years, making them a long-term commitment for

their owners. If you've become enamoured by one or more Instagram-famous chinchillas and you're thinking of taking one home, keep the following information in mind.

SOFT TO THE TOUCH

Chinchillas may have fur that seemingly begs to be touched, but take note – these rodents are said to be a little shyer than pet rats and mice. Having said that, some actually enjoy being delicately touched on their head, back, and under their chin, or receiving a soft scratch behind their ears. They just need a bit of time to trust their owners fully. They have a very delicate skeleton, so you should never grab them by the tail or limbs or hold them tightly.

IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS

Despite their rather portly appearance, chinchillas are known as one of the more athletic rodents. They have long, strong hind limbs that empower them to leap almost two metres in height! Make sure your chinchilla has a soft place to land when it starts asserting its athletic prowess.

PERSONALITY-PACKED

Chinchillas have large ears and sensitive hearing, and they can

be easily startled by loud noises. They also produce a wide array of sounds, including hiccups, chirps, and squeals, all of which serve as social messages to other chinchillas. Speaking of these friends, note that they are highly social rodents and should ideally be kept in at least a small group of other chinchillas. In the wild, they live in packs of over 100. However, they cannot be housed with other animals, and they should be kept far away from rabbits. The latter can carry a bacteria called pasteurella, which can be fatal to chinchillas.

ARE CHINCHILLAS EASY TO CARE FOR?

Chinchillas are relatively easy to care for. They require love and care every day, as well as food and water, a clean cage, and playtime. A single chinchilla requires a minimum enclosure of around 60cm by 60cm by 120cm. The sides of the cage should be made of wire for optimal ventilation, and the wire should have a spacing of no more than 2.5cm to prevent escapes or injuries. The base should be smooth and flat (a plastic tray is ideal) rather than wire, to prevent pressure sores on their delicate feet. The cage should include multiple tiers, ramps, and shelves

for climbing and playing, as they are active animals that love to jump and explore. Remember that the more chinchillas you have, the bigger their cage will need to be, so consult your vet about ideal sizes before you take these rodents home.

Ensure you clean their cage at least weekly with soap and water and replace their bedding weekly. Clean their food and water bowls (which should be made of ceramic or stainless steel) daily with soap and water and spot clean the cage daily. Provide 2.5 to 5cm of high-quality paper bedding or crumbled paper. Avoid wood shavings, which can cause health problems or even death owing to digestive issues.

Chinchillas are herbivores and require an unlimited, continuous supply of high-quality hay such as timothy, oat, meadow, orchard, or any other low calcium hay. You can also offer them one to two tablespoons of chinchilla pellets per day, as well as occasional treats such as fruits and low-calcium foods like rose hips, calendula, and marigolds. Ensure treats don't make up more than 10 per cent of your chinchilla's diet. Finally, speak to your vet and research thoroughly into pet chinchillas' needs before taking them home! 🐾



Find out what makes 7 Olas a special project for RH Privé. Meet the successful team behind NCH Dallimore. Keep up-to-date with local business news and events. Learn about the rules governing voting in a community general assembly.

enterprise

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7 OLAS

A LIFESTYLE CONCEPT IN FUENGIROLA

Situated in the La Loma area of Fuengirola, 7 Olas finds itself surrounded by the 30,000m² of greenery that belongs to the Gran Parque de La Loma. A paradise for sports, exercise, and relaxation just five minutes from Los Boliches beach and ten minutes to the town centre.

WORDS MICHEL CRUZ PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF RH PRIVÉ



Open plan living



Surrounded by parklands

The airport is 17 minutes from this fine example of modern resort living at the heart of the Costa del Sol, some 30 minutes east of Marbella. The 77 two- and three-bedroom apartments of this gated community, along with the four luxurious penthouses, all face the sea and feature a private parking space and storage room, as well as a long list of on-site amenities. Indeed, 7 Olas is much more than just an apartment complex – this is a contemporary development that creates a private community surrounded by all the bustle of the coastal area.

The spaciouly proportioned apartments and terraces are orientated to make the most of the natural sunlight and views over the parkland surroundings, the sea, and the landscaped garden areas in a resort community that includes an infinity

pool, beach club with Balinese sunbeds, a multifunctional coworking space that can also be adapted to other uses, a professionally equipped gymnasium, a wellness centre with sauna, and a barbecue that forms one of the social hubs within a development focused above all on first homes for a younger clientele.

Buyers also automatically become members of the Owners Club, which provides access to free and paid events such as wine, cheese or olive oil tasting and culinary evenings organised by the club manager. In addition, members have first privileged access to RH Privé's new projects and the opportunity to reserve them ahead of launch, as well as receiving discounts on a network of partner restaurants, interior design studios, furniture brands, wellness centres, and more. ›

It's a level of exclusive family living that is still not that easily found in this part of the coast but is finding a very welcoming market from buyers who highly appreciate the stylish design, quality finish, security, privacy, green areas, and many amenities within 7 Olas. Added to this is a high standard of service that also includes a fully developed customisation

programme, which enables owners to add a very personal touch of uniqueness to their property through an extensive choice of finishes.

These include a wide range of different floors, tiles, taps and bathroom fittings, kitchen detailing as well as other extras. They form part of a full advisory service that guides buyers from the initial stages through

personalisation choices and detailing, to final handover. From that moment on, it's a question of settling in and discovering the attractions and delights of the area, and here too the support team is happy to offer personal advice and help with administrative tasks for those who are not familiar with the region and the language.





It is all part of a commitment that RH Privé, the creators of 7 Olas, take very seriously. The same is true of a drive for sustainable development that goes back to the very founding of the company 30 years ago, and as a result the brand stands for technologically innovative, sustainable lifestyle homes. With over 500 homes delivered, 200 under construction, and another 160 recently started, RH Privé is a leading developer of properties on the Costa del Sol, and thanks to their philosophy of innovation they keep advancing.

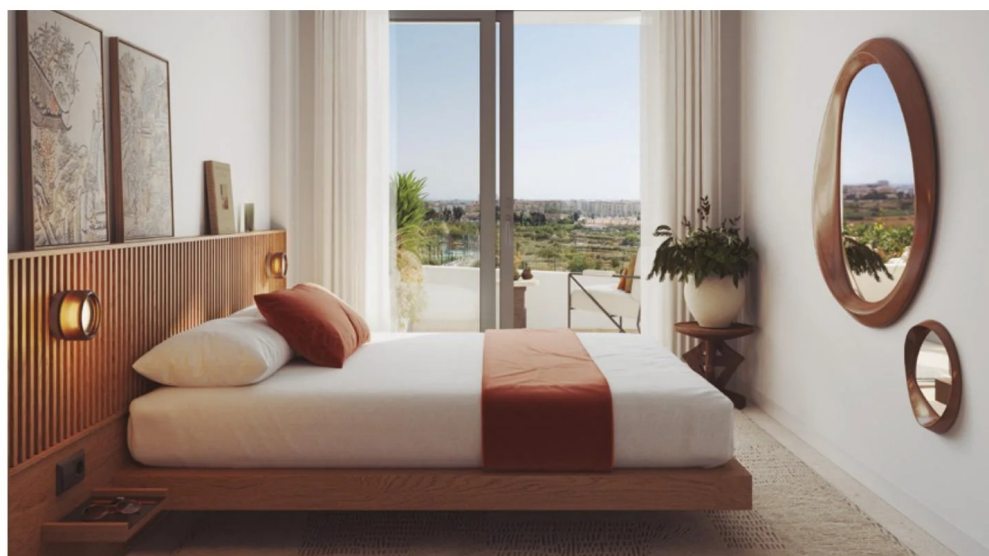
ECO LUXURY

7 Olas is the latest evolution of RH Privé's offering – a project that carries in its DNA the collected experience and know-how of 30 years of creating homes. As a result, it is the most advanced and environmentally sustainable development that the company has produced to date – with a strong focus

on energy efficiency thanks to a full array of measures, including photovoltaic panels, an aerothermal installation, LED lighting, insulated carpentry with thermal break, occupancy sensors in the public spaces, and smart home automation systems.

An important facet of sustainable development is water efficiency, and here RH Privé promotes the intelligent use of resources through the installation of efficient non-leak taps, water reuse for irrigation, saline water pools, and drought-resistant local flora in the landscaping. The architecture is similarly adapted to the natural and cultural environment, focusing on a modern interpretation of vernacular styling, with overhanging roofs, light-toned façades, protected openings, cross ventilation, thermal bridge insulation, and by designing courtyards with vegetation so as to reduce temperature extremes and the need for much heating and cooling. ›

Recycled materials further promote responsible construction methods and efficient waste management. This commitment extends beyond RH Privé's own developments such as 7 Olas to also include support for foundations such as Ecomar, founded by double Olympic gold medallist in sailing Theresa Zabell, which dedicates itself to the protection and preservation of the oceans. With 7 Olas, RH Privé continues to develop and refine its environmental credentials while offering modern luxury in high quality



lifestyle locations on the Costa del Sol – making good on the company's philosophy of quality, innovation, and refinement.

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NCH DALLIMORE

40 YEARS MODERN!

Diana Dallimore has made a career out of a lifelong love for beautiful homes. Her agency brings together 40 years of experience in the industry and an undiluted enthusiasm for helping buyers and investors achieve the results they desire, forming the foundation for relationships, which in some cases go back several generations.

WORDS **MICHEL CRUZ** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **NCH DALLIMORE**





With so many real estate agencies around, what do you do to differentiate yourself? "You just have to be true to yourself and do things the way you believe is right," says Diana Dallimore, founder and CEO of NCH Dallimore. "In other words, in line with your skills, personality, and values." It is often said that every industry and sector is divided into self-selecting markets, where people are drawn to those companies and professionals they are comfortable with and see themselves reflected in, and this is clearly the case with NCH Dallimore, which over the past decades has built up a loyal client base and longstanding relationships with many of its clients, both past and present. ›



"In life, it's not always what you do, but how you do it," says Diana. "You can't be all things to all people, but if you do what you do with authenticity and integrity, you'll find your market." And she has, building up not only a large local and international network of trusted colleagues and fellow industry professionals but also special relationships with her clients that often transcend many years, and indeed generations. "A lot of our business comes

from client referrals, where people we have sold properties to later ask us to list them again, to find another home for them when they want to upscale, downscale, or change areas. It's a very gratifying way of working, and fits in with our natural approach of going the extra mile."

A LOVE OF BEAUTIFUL HOMES

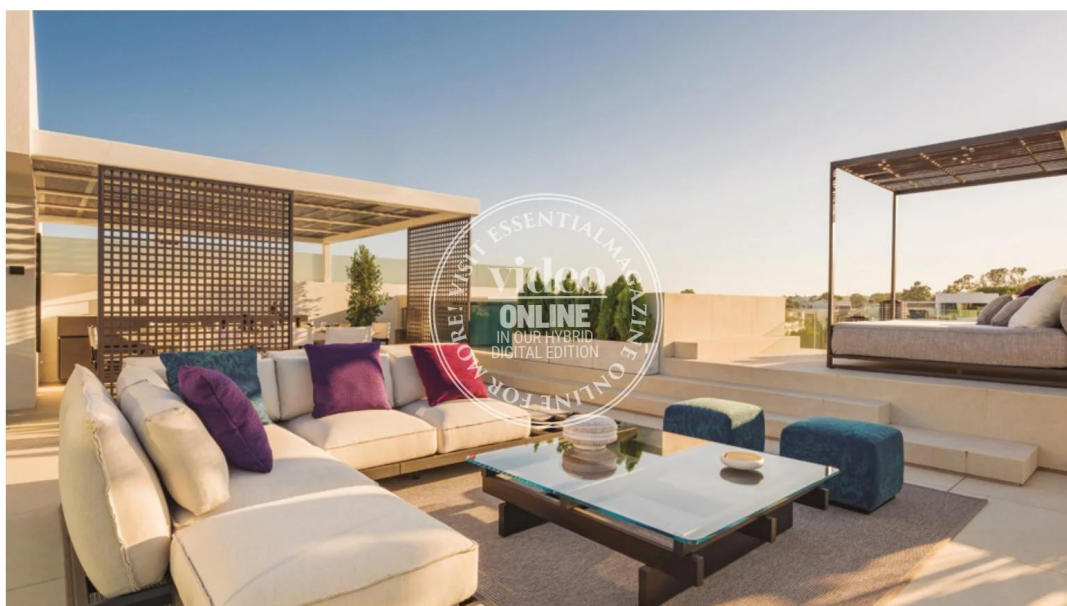
Diana and the team at NCH Dallimore like to say that they

don't sell properties, they find homes. "Ours is not a pushy approach. We're old-fashioned realtors in the sense that we see it as our role to match the buyer with the home or investment that suits them, and not the other way round. Sometimes this means giving a client the honest feedback about drawbacks or the fact that a certain property just doesn't suit their requirements, even if this means losing a sale." In the same way, the team doesn't end the



relationship when a sale is concluded, but is happy to continue to provide advice, guidance, and support. "Many is the time where we've continued to liaise with the client after a purchase was concluded and provided them with information and given them the benefit of our years on the coast," says Diana. "In practical terms, that can mean referrals to the kind of trusted professionals we've known for many years or helping them to find their feet in the area, or even taking some of the initial administrative support tasks upon us."

It is this kind of close connection that builds enduring relationships and leads to the many referrals Diana and the team receive from their clients. "We're a company with a 40-year trajectory in the business, decades of industry experience and local knowledge that has built up an important network of fellow professionals, clients, and investors here and around the globe, but we're also a young company made up of a broad range of ages and the fresh ideas and tech savvy know-how that the younger generation brings to the table," says Diana. "It's an invigorating mix where we all learn from one another to create a powerful blend of experience and new ideas." She and the team put this to use in a service that is built on a classic personal touch when it comes to service, combined with a sleek modern approach to marketing." ›



BUYERS AND INVESTORS

"One of the reasons we attract repeat business is because we are dedicated to finding you the Marbella home you are looking for – and we have the network to achieve it – but also because we have been consistently capable of achieving above-target results when it comes to returns. This is highly appreciated among homebuyers but also appeals to investors, with whom we work to also find the right property from an ROI perspective. For this reason, part of our business is dedicated to providing specialist support for private investors looking to establish or expand a real estate portfolio in this part of the world. We have a great deal of experience and a very good

track record, so here too we've developed many longstanding relationships."

VILAS 12

It is a combination of experience, know-how, and passion that has brought NCH Dallimore to this position, combined with a willingness to continue growing and embracing changing times, and this has seen itself reflected in the representation of exclusive properties and boutique developments such as Vilas 12, where the company is currently marketing a prime collection of beautifully designed and decorated homes in the heart of the Golden Mile.

"To be offering gorgeous modern villas at Marbella's prime

address is a privilege indeed," says Diana. "They are made for people who appreciate the finer things in life, including superb architectural design and attention to detail, a sophisticated lifestyle location with mesmerising sea views, and exquisite styling by Pedro Peña. In other words, many of the finest aspects of Marbella brought together in an exclusive gated community. It's a fine example of the kind of homes that made me fall in love with this job in the first place."

NCH DALLIMORE

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business news

COMPILED BY **MARISA CUTILLAS**



La C bane Reopens Its Doors, Celebrating 60 Years of Glamour, Gastronomy, and the Beach Life

La C bane – the first beach club in Spain to be fully decorated by Dolce & Gabbana – will celebrate its grand reopening on April 12 with many surprises, including a top-tier performance. Grupo Mosh has enlisted the help of multi-Michelin-starred chef Dani Garc a to craft a Mediterranean-inspired culinary experience with a strong Italian influence and for the first time in years, the club will also bring back its famed Sunday lunch buffet. Since opening its doors in 1965, this exclusive venue has been more than just a beach club; it has been a favourite meeting point for the jet set, and the host of legendary fashion shows, unforgettable concerts, and royal visits. Happy 60th anniversary to the club and here's to many more exciting years ahead.

WWW.LACABANEMARBELLA.COM



Nvoga Presents Estrella del Mar

Prestigious real estate firm NVOGA Marbella Realty is pleased to announce that the Estrella del Mar Villas project in Elviria Beachside, Marbella, has enjoyed great success. Developed and built by ACCIONA and sold by NVOGA, it has only two remaining houses for sale, one with sea views, in one of the most sought-after areas in East Marbella, within walking distance to the beach.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT NVOGA ON
TEL: (+34) 952 813 333 WWW.NVOGA.COM



Soles de Málaga Charity Festival Takes Place at the Málaga Bullring on April 26

Now in its sixth edition, the Soles de Málaga Festival is an iconic event featuring 13 hours of non-stop music. The event, hosted by Belinda Washington, Manolo Sarria and Ángel Rielo, will be held at the Plaza de Toros de La Malagueta to raise funds for 11 NGOs fighting against poverty. Featured artists include Raimundo Amador, Nacho Campillo (Tam Tam Go!), Teo Cardalda (Cómplices), the original band of Antonio Vega, and Legends Alive (a tribute to Tina Turner, Whitney Houston, and Queen). Soles de Málaga is supported by The Málaga Provincial Council, The Málaga City Council, Fundación CaixaBank, Fundación Lágrimas y Favores, Fundación Mahou San Miguel, and a vast network of corporate sponsors, including Bodega El Pimpi.

FOR TICKETS, VISIT WWW.ENTRADIUM.COM/EVENTS/FESTIVAL-SOLES-DE-MALAGA-2025





Pure Living Properties Shines at the Luxury Lifestyle Awards 2025

Pure Living Properties has been officially honoured at the prestigious Luxury Lifestyle Awards 2025, receiving the prize for Best Luxury Real Estate Agency on the Costa del Sol. This recognition reaffirms its position as a leader in the premium real estate sector in the region and strengthens its presence in the international market. The Luxury Lifestyle Awards, often called the 'Oscars of Luxury', celebrate exclusive brands across various industries, including architecture, interior design, hospitality, and real estate. "This award is a testament to our team's dedication and hard work. It drives us to continue innovating and delivering exceptional service to our clients," says Javier Nieto, CEO of Pure Living Properties.

| WWW.PURELIVINGPROPERTIES.COM

City Clinic Marbella Now Open at La Cañada Shopping Centre

City Clinic Marbella recently celebrated its opening at La Cañada Shopping Centre, bringing world-class dental and aesthetic treatments to the heart of Marbella. Its expert team of European-licensed professionals specialises in advanced, non-surgical aesthetic enhancements and state-of-the-art dental care designed to rejuvenate patients' appearance, enhance their smile, and boost their confidence. At the Clinic, you can experience personalised treatments in a modern, welcoming environment where health, beauty, and well-being come together.

| WWW.CITYCLINIC.IO



Puerto Banús Launches New Port Consulting Division

Puerto Banús has launched its Port Consulting service – an innovative strategic initiative designed to share its expertise in managing, developing, and optimising marinas and yachting harbours in national and international markets. With over 55 years of experience, Puerto Banús has become a benchmark in the nautical industry, combining operational excellence, commercial

vision, and efficient management. Its new consulting division aims to provide advice to operators, public administrations, and investors seeking to develop, modernise, or reposition port infrastructures worldwide. Puerto Banús also wishes to announce that its luxury boutiques earned over €310 million in 2024, around nine per cent more than in 2023.

| WWW.PUERTO-BANUS.COM



Hispano-Irish Ties Celebrated at the University of Málaga

After months of work, the seminar 'Ireland, Spain, and Latin America in Their Historical Relations', part of the University of Málaga's Aula +55 programme, concluded successfully with an event featuring a live Gaelic music performance by Simon Taylor. José Antonio Sierra delivered a masterclass on Hispanic cultural management in Dublin, drawing from his 34 years of experience and contributions to establishing the Spanish Cultural Institute and Cervantes Institute in Dublin. The course explored the deep historical ties between Spain, Ireland, and Latin America, covering numerous topics ranging from the Spanish monarchy's support for Ireland to modern cultural and geopolitical relations.

| WWW.UMA.ES



San Diego Comic-Con Expands Globally

For over 50 years, Comic-Con International® (San Diego Comic-Con®) has been an iconic event where popular art comes to life. Thanks to an agreement facilitated by IMG Licensing, it will be taking place outside the United States for the first time in its history, making its European debut in Málaga from September 25 to 28. This milestone was made possible by the institutional support of the Junta de Andalucía and the Málaga City Council, which have committed to making Málaga a European capital of popular arts. Stay informed through the event's official website:

| WWW.SANDIEGOCOMICCONMALAGA.COM



Happy Congress Day in Marbella

Happy Congress Day is an exclusive event that inspires and fosters self-awareness, creativity, social connections, and entrepreneurship through high-impact conferences, talks, roundtable discussions, and interactive experiences. Entrepreneur Curro Sabán founded the event as a platform to unlock creativity while encouraging entrepreneurship through authenticity and contribution. Speakers included renowned author and international speaker Borja Vilaseca, author and leading figure in female entrepreneurship Charo Vargas, and writer, speaker, and influencer Cisco García.

| WWW.HAPPYCONGRESSDAY.COM

Charity Performance of A Monster Calls in Support of the Spanish Association Against Cancer

The Teatro del Soho CaixaBank will host a charity performance of *A Monster Calls* by LaJoven on April 23. The play follows the theatrical adaptation that premiered in London in 2018, based on the novel by Patrick Ness. Spanish director Juan Antonio Bayona made the book into a film and won an impressive nine Goya Awards. Ness will be present at the event. All ticket sales from this performance will be donated to support the programs and services of the Spanish Association Against Cancer in Málaga. Additionally, attendees can purchase tickets for a charity cocktail event at Restaurante Atrezzo after the show, where they can meet the cast and invited guests.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE
THEATRE'S WEBSITE AND AT THE TEATRO
DEL SOHO CAIXABANK BOX OFFICE.
WWW.TEATRODEL SOHO.COM



Rotary 'James Bond' Charity Gala to Take Place in May

Rotary Club Marbella Guadalmina will be holding the exciting gala, *A Party to Die For*, at the TikiTano restaurant on Friday, May 2 and the theme of the event is 'James Bond Movies'. Join the fun and 'dress to kill' as your favourite James Bond character! Order a martini shaken, not stirred, and experience all the glamour of 007 while enjoying an unforgettable evening filled with music, entertainment, and dancing. Your participation will help Rotary raise much-needed funds for the various charities it supports.

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO:
THOMASHERMANN.VEIT@GMAIL.COM

AEDAS Now Constructing the Last Phases of Vanian Gardens

AEDAS Homes is pleased to announce that it has commenced construction on the last few homes of its project, Vanian Gardens in Estepona, which comprises 200 homes. With Vanian Gardens III fully completed and only eight homes available for sale, the company will complete phases IV and V, comprising 48 and 35 homes, respectively, with SANJOSE Constructora taking charge of the construction. The project comprises one-, two-, three- and four-bedroom homes with beautiful gardens, outdoor swimming pools, gyms, co-working spaces, a spa with an indoor pool, a youth club, a cinema room, and more. The planned completion date is the first trimester of 2027.

| WWW.AEDASHOMES.COM



***DM Properties and
Knight Frank Publish
New Wealth Report***

DM Properties is delighted to present the 19th edition of The Wealth Report by Knight Frank. This market-leading publication offers exclusive insights into the latest private wealth and global investment trends, focusing on family offices and affluent investors. This year's report contains luxury real estate and commercial property insights, ESG and sustainability investment trends, information on the rising influence of younger investors and digital nomads, and an exclusive analysis of vineyards, yachts, and the art market. Economic and geopolitical volatility may be on the rise, but for those with vision, growth opportunities abound. In times of change, bold investors who look beyond the risks stand to gain the most.

| WWW.DMPROPERTIES.COM



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Málaga-Based Ceramist María Monasterio Joins Forces with Cervezas La Alhambra

Renowned Andalusian artist María Monasterio has paid tribute to Andalucía in her latest work for Cervezas La Alhambra. The artist has designed three ceramic pieces inspired by the ingredients and moments of enjoyment offered by the new 'Numeradas Serie Andalucía' beers. The project was launched on Andalucía Day, coinciding this year with the centenary of Cervezas Alhambra. It is available exclusively through Mahou San Miguel's e-commerce platform.

| WWW.MAHOU-SANMIGUEL.COM

Es Marbeloso Activity Book: A Fun, Active Way to Enjoy Marbella

Es Marbeloso is a delightful activity book that celebrates the luxurious Marbella lifestyle. It offers readers an upscale, fun, and entertaining collection of puzzles, word games, colouring pages, and local insights. It's designed for travellers to enjoy during their journey or while relaxing on our beautiful beaches. The work is tailor-made for Marbella visitors and residents, as it contains activities like how to spot a fake watch, luxury car-themed word searches, and funny phrases.

| THE BOOK IS AVAILABLE ON AMAZON. WWW.AMAZON.ES



Cross-Country Success for Sotogrande International School

Students from Sotogrande International School's cross-country teams enjoyed great success at the International School Championships. For the first time in the school's history, its primary school cross-country team triumphed at the championships (hosted by EIC), winning by over 200 points! The following week, SIS returned to St. Anthony's as the reigning secondary school champions, facing 11 other schools, doubling their winning margin from the previous year to retain the trophy for the first time. Congratulations to the students for all their hard work securing this unprecedented double win!

| WWW.SIS.AC

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Four Restaurants Recognised for Sustainability by Guía Repsol and #AlimentosdEspaña

The Sol Sostenible #AlimentosdEspaña Awards 2025 recognised the outstanding work of four restaurants: Aponiente (Puerto de Santa María, Cádiz – with three Repsol Guide suns) for its efforts in marine conservation, Venta Moncalvillo (Daroca de Rioja, La Rioja – with two Repsol Guide suns) for embracing agriculture as a way of life, Nectari (Barcelona – one Repsol Guide Sun) for its commitment to environmentally friendly energy and inclusion, and El Duende del Fuego (Los Llanos de Aridane, La Palma – recommended by the Repsol Guide) for its dedication to sourcing products exclusively from its local surroundings. The winners were announced in an event in Tenerife with the participation of Ana Rodríguez Castaño, Secretary General of Agricultural Resources and Food Security, José Miguel Herrero, Director General of Food, and María Ritter, Director of Guía Repsol.

WWW.GUIAREPSOL.COM



WORDS JOSÉ LUIS NAVARRO

HOW TO COUNT VOTES IN A GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Many property owners often find themselves confused about when a decision is considered approved in a general assembly. To clarify this, it is essential to distinguish between three different types of agreements:

1. Unanimous Approval

Required Certain decisions, such as modifications to the statutes or changes to quota coefficients, require the unanimous consent of the entire community.

2. Special Quorum Required

Some agreements, including

the installation or cancellation of general services (such as elevators, concierge services, etc.), require approval from 60% of the owners and 60% of the total quota coefficients of the whole community. Other agreements could need just 1/3 of the owners and coefficients of the community.

3. 50% Majority Required The remaining agreements require a minimum of 50% of the owners and at least 50% of the quota coefficients for approval. When the meeting is held at the first call, this 50% will be counted on the total number of owners and quota coefficients but

when the meeting is celebrated at the second call, this half would be only for the owners and coefficients present or represented in the meeting.

Each property within a community is assigned a quota coefficient, which represents its proportional share in the entire community. The sum of all quota coefficients in a community equals 100%.

This article focuses on the necessity that in any of the agreements, a double majority will always be required – a majority in both the number of owners and the quota coefficients – for approval.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT VOTE COUNTING

One of the most frequent misunderstandings is believing that a decision is approved when a majority of the owners vote in favour with the different quorum explained. However, if these owners do not collectively hold the majority of the quota coefficients, the motion does not pass.

Another common mistake is assuming that an owner with multiple properties has multiple votes. Regardless of the number of properties owned, each owner is entitled to only one vote.

This rule is particularly important in cases where developers still own multiple unsold properties within a community. If each property were granted a separate vote, developers or some who own many properties in the community could unilaterally impose decisions on the rest of the owners. Fortunately, the regulation ensures that developers, regardless of the number of properties they own, have only one vote. Consequently, they must secure additional support from other owners to pass a motion to get the double majority mentioned.

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

To illustrate how this system works, consider a community with 10 properties, where a developer or a particular owner owns six of them:

1. Scenario 1 The developer proposes an extraordinary fee, but the four other owners vote against it.

- » Votes in favour: 1 (developer)
- » Quota coefficient in favour: 60%
- » Votes against: 4 (other owners)
- » Quota coefficient against: 40%
- » Result: The motion is not approved, as it fails to meet the required double majority.

2. Scenario 2 The developer secures support from two other owners.

- » Votes in favour: 3 (developer + 2 owners)
- » Quota coefficient in favour: 80%
- » Votes against: 2
- » Quota coefficient against: 20%
- » Result: The motion is approved, as it meets both the majority of votes and quota coefficients.

3. Scenario 3 Three owners vote in favour, while the remaining owner votes against.

- » Votes in favour: 3 (owners)
- » Quota coefficient in favour: 30%

- » Votes against: 1 (developer)
- » Quota coefficient against: 70%
- » Result: The motion is not approved, as it lacks the majority in quota coefficients.

JUDICIAL INTERVENTION IN VOTE DISCREPANCIES

In cases where a motion obtains a majority in either the number of votes or the quota coefficients – but not both – a judge may be required to decide whether the decision is valid. This process is typically resolved through a simplified legal procedure.

CONCLUSION

Understanding the principle of double majority is crucial when participating in a general assembly. By being aware of these voting rules, property owners can ensure that developers or other stakeholders do not manipulate the decision-making process in the community.

JOSÉ LUIS NAVARRO IS A SOLICITOR SPECIALISING IN COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION, PROVIDING FRESH SOLUTIONS FOR HAPPY COMMUNITIES. CONTACT INTERCALA: LEGAL@INTERCALA.COM WWW.INTERCALA.COM



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Real estate agents, colleagues, and associates attended the Open House for Villa Vista, a stunning villa with panoramic views set in a gated community in Las Lomas de Nueva Andalucía. With sleek, modern architecture, meticulous design, expansive floor-to-ceiling windows, and breathtaking views over the Mediterranean Sea, this property is a standout in Marbella's real estate market.

WWW.DMPROPERTIES.COM



PHOTOGRAPHY **KEVIN HORN**



KIMPTON LOS MONTEROS **PRESENTATION**

Members of the press and those associated with luxury travel gathered for the presentation of the new KIMPTON LOS MONTEROS, following a significant reform. Speeches were given by Ángeles Muñoz, the Mayor of Marbella, the new General Manager Merry Antoja Hollenstein, and Executive Chef José Carlos Garcia, while guests savoured some of his culinary preparations.

**WWW.KIMPTONLOSMONTEROS
MARBELLA.COM**



PHOTOGRAPHY **KEVIN HORN**

215 | APRIL 2025 | MARBELLA, SPAIN



Reserve a table and savour the tasting menu at the beautifully restored El Lago. Support children's health at the forthcoming ChefsForChildren Gala at Anantara Villa Padierna. Become acquainted with Txema Palacio, Executive Chef of Grupo Besaya.

gourmet

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A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS FOR EL LAGO, WHERE
FINE DINING MEETS ELEGANCE AND INNOVATION

EL LAGO RESTAURANT

BEAUTIFULLY REINVENTED



A new chapter begins for El Lago, an iconic fine-dining destination on the Costa del Sol, unveiling a refined and sophisticated new look. After an exciting transformation, this landmark restaurant – nestled within Greenlife Golf at the heart of Elviria Hills – welcomes guests with a fresh and elegant ambiance, ready to enchant food lovers with its exceptional offerings.

WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY **PILAR CANDIL**





A SPACE THAT INSPIRES: ELEGANCE IN EVERY DETAIL

The complete renovation of El Lago has resulted in a warm and inviting haven, where every element has been thoughtfully designed to enhance the dining experience. Natural wood, soft neutral tones, and delicate linen tablecloths create an atmosphere of serenity and refinement. The expansive terrace, offering breathtaking views of the golf course and the lake, has also been reimagined with a spectacular nighttime fountain display, adding an enchanting touch of light and colour to the setting.



A CULINARY JOURNEY THROUGH LOCAL FLAVOURS

Under the direction of chef Milos Zdravkovic, El Lago remains devoted to culinary excellence, presenting a menu



that pays homage to seasonal, locally sourced ingredients while infusing traditional Andalusian flavors with a contemporary twist.

The menu showcases a raw bar featuring Gillardeau oysters and blinis with Osetra caviar, as well as standout main courses such as aged beef tataki with bone marrow sauce and confit monkfish with celeriac purée. Desserts are equally mesmerising, with creations like the chromatic carrot cake and the indulgent apple tarte Tatin with salted caramel ice cream. ›





2025 TASTING MENU: A CELEBRATION OF THE SENSES

The carefully curated Tasting Menu offers a multi-sensory experience, inviting guests on a journey of textures, flavours, and craftsmanship. It begins with appetisers such as Moorish-style tuna and Payoyo cheese empanadilla, aged beef mini baguette with piquillo pepper emulsion, crispy smoked eel mousse ball, and pickled carrot tartelette with vanilla. The main courses include Motril shrimp tartare with Palo Cortado caviar and crystal baby shrimp papyrus, seasonal mushrooms in textures, Andalusian Bolognese squid noodles, and tortellini stuffed with oxtail, paired with PX wine foie cream. To conclude, the dessert selection features fermented

banana ice cream with fine wine distillate, banana sponge, banana butterscotch sauce, and banana chips – a sweet finale that showcases the artistry of El Lago's pastry team.

AN EXQUISITE WINE SELECTION

El Lago has elevated its enological experience with a

remarkable selection of over 70 Champagnes, carefully curated to feature both small artisanal producers and renowned houses. The extensive wine cellar also boasts legendary labels such as Vega Sicilia and Petrus, alongside rare gems from Burgundy and Bordeaux, ensuring a perfect pairing for every course.





RESTAURANTE EL LAGO

AVENIDA MARCO POLO, 8, MARBELLA

TEL: (+ 34) 952 832 371

WWW.RESTAURANTEELLAGO.COM

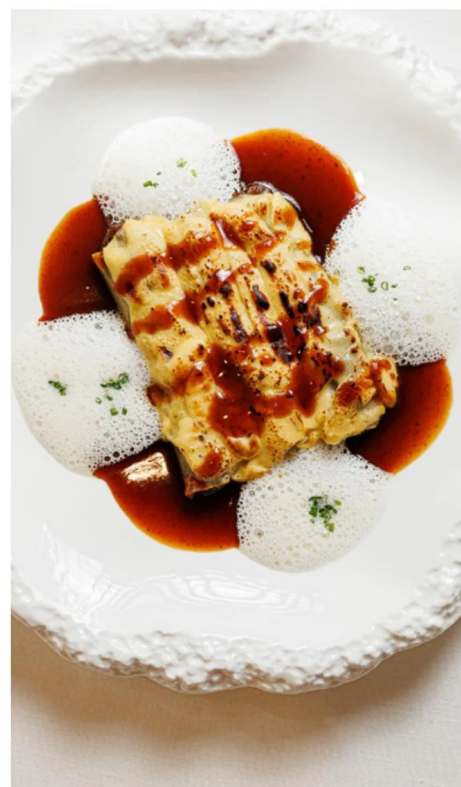
THE PERFECT VENUE FOR UNFORGETTABLE EVENTS

Beyond its culinary excellence, El Lago stands as an exceptional venue for exclusive events. With a terrace accommodating up to 60 guests, along with two elegant private dining rooms, the restaurant offers customisable options for weddings, corporate gatherings, and intimate celebrations.

A NEW CHAPTER IN MARBELLA'S FINE DINING SCENE

Recognised with one Repsol Sun and ranked among the Top 100 in the Macarfi Guide, El Lago reaffirms its status as a beacon of haute cuisine in Marbella. This new chapter is not just about a revitalised space – it is a renewed commitment to an unparalleled gastronomic experience, where every detail is designed to delight the senses.

The magic of El Lago is back, brighter than ever. Are you ready to discover it? 





MORE THAN **60 MICHELIN-STARRED CHEFS** PUT ON THEIR
APRONS TO COOK WITH CHILDREN WITH DIABETES AT
CHEFSFORCHILDREN

ChefsForChildren is a heartwarming initiative where gastronomy and children take centre stage. This project aims to promote the importance of healthy eating while supporting children who need it most. Under the slogan 'Eating healthy is fun', over 60 of Spain's top chefs will share their passion and knowledge with young participants.



This year, ChefsForChildren joins forces with DiabetesCERO, a foundation dedicated to researching type 1 diabetes. This autoimmune disease primarily affects children, has no cure, and is on the rise. Each year, between 1,200 and 1,500 children under 15 are diagnosed, and 1 in 42 families in Spain lives with this chronic condition.

The 7th edition of ChefsForChildren will take place on April 28th at Anantara Villa Padierna, bringing together the country's most renowned chefs and over 150 children from DiabetesCERO and local schools Daidín and Atalaya de Benahavís. Together, they will prepare simple, healthy recipes in an

engaging culinary workshop.

As night falls, guests will enjoy an unforgettable charity gala dinner. The evening will begin with a cocktail reception in the hotel's amphitheater garden, followed by an exquisite dinner at Linares Terrace, where Malaga's Michelin-starred chefs will craft an exclusive menu. All participating chefs will dine alongside more than 300 guests, creating a unique and intimate experience. The gala will also feature live music, exciting surprises, and an open bar.

Tickets for this extraordinary evening are available for purchase on the official website. Don't miss the chance to be part of this incredible cause!

These are the 67 chefs who altruistically participate

in this initiative with all their love and professionalism: Pedro Subijana (Akelarre***), Ángel León (Aponiente***), Elena Arzak (Arzak***), Toño Pérez (Atrio***), Eneko Atxa (Azurmendi***), Jesús Sánchez (Cenador de Amós***), Esther Manzano (Casa Marcial***), Javier y Sergio Torres (Cocina Hermanos Torres***), Oriol Castro, Eduard Xatruch y Mateu Casañas (Disfrutar***), Paolo Casagrande (Lasarte***), Martín Berasategui (Martín Berasategui***), Paco Morales (Noor***), Quique Dacosta (Quique Dacosta***), Paulo Airaud (Amelia**), Benito Gómez (Bardal**), Pablo González (Cabaña Buenavista**), Mario Sandoval (Coque**), Manuel Costiña (Costiña**), Javi Olleros



(Culler de Pau**), Diego Guerrero (Dstage**), David Yárnoz (El Molino de Urdaniz**), Luis Valls (El Poblet**), Francis Paniego (El Portal del Echaurren**), Iván Cerdeño (Iván Cerdeño Cigarral del Ángel**), Kiko Moya (L'Escaleta**), Fina Puigdevall y Martina Puigvert (Les Cols**), Fran Martínez (Maralba**), Erlantz Gorostiza (MB**), Paco Pérez (Miramar**), Paco Roncero (Paco Roncero Restaurante**), Pepe Vieira (Pepe Vieira Restaurante**), Ramón Freixa (Ramón Freixa**), Ricard Camarena (Ricard Camarena**), Mario

Cachinero (Skina**), Ignacio Echapresto (Venta Moncalvillo**), Vicky Sevilla (Arrels*), Lucía Freitas (A Tafona*), Rafa Soler (Audrey's*), Artur Martínez (Aurt*), David Olivas (Back*), Pedro Sánchez (Bagá*), Pepe Solla (Casa Solla*), Javier Aranda (Gaytán*), José Carlos García (José Carlos García Restaurante*), Dani Carnero (Kaleja*), Sergi Arola (LAB*), Óscar Molina (La Gaia*), Begoña Rodrigo (La Salita*), Javier Estévez (La Tasquería*), Maca de Castro (Maca de Castro*), María Gómez (Magoga*), Israel Ramos (Mantúa*), Mauricio





Giovanini (Messina*), Álvaro Garrido (Mina*), Carlos Maldonado (Raíces*), Ricardo Sanz (Ricardo Sanz Wellington*), Diego Gallegos (Sollo*), Hugo Muñoz (Ugo Chan*), Óscar Velasco (Velasco Abellá*), Diego del Río (Boho Club), Domi Vélez (El Horno de Vélez), Alberto Chicote (Omeraki) and Juan Antonio Medina (Tatel).

Pilar Candil, director of Lima Comunicación y Eventos, creative and organising agency, states: "ChefsForChildren is a responsible and large-scale event. Reaching the 7th edition makes me happy because we have more than 60 charitable chefs. Gastronomy is generous and never forgets those in need. Thanks to our chefs, sponsors, and collaborators, this year we will teach children with diabetes how to cook and inspire them. Together, we have strengthened this beautiful initiative, which grows every year like a big, caring family."

WEBSITE: CHEFSFORCHILDREN.ES
 WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/CHEFS_FOR_CHILDREN
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TXEMA PALACIO

WORDS **MARISA CUTILLAS** PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **GRUPO BESAYA**

OF GRUPO BESAYA: CELEBRATING EXCELLENT TECHNIQUE AND QUALITY PRODUCE

Food critics and food lovers alive have undoubtedly witnessed the demise of molecular gastronomy – the movement that saw chefs playing with amalgams and liquid nitrogen, and using pressure probes to determine the crunchiness of batter.

That is not to say that the trend hasn't had its benefits, such as a greater awareness of the scientific processes behind many techniques. However, traditional cuisine has stood the test of time by relying on methodologies handed down across generations to create flavours, textures, and aromas that satisfy the palate while pleasing the eye. Add to that the wonder of innovation, and that is precisely the cuisine that Txema Palacio, the Executive Chef of Grupo Besaya, brings to the table.





Diario Sur's Enrique Bellver hit the nail on the head when he referred to Palacio's fare as "updated traditional cuisine." For the chef, the quality of produce and excellent technique are two essential ingredients of success. However, a third element stands out in his fare: local cuisine. Palacio hails from Bilbao, which he calls "the capital of the world," owing to its rich culinary tradition. However, one of the main reasons he is so happy to live and work in Málaga is its exquisite Mediterranean produce. When I ask him to describe his cuisine, he says that it results from "two influences: Basque cuisine, with its profound respect for produce and traditional techniques, and Malagueño cuisine, which is fresh and light-filled, capable of elevating simple produce with its simplicity and elegance." These influences are celebrated at Besaya Group's three restaurants on the Coast – TikiTano, Besaya Beach, and Malva. ›





Palacio was born and raised in Bilbao, where he attended the Escuela Superior de Hostelería. Upon graduation, he honed his craft at a myriad of renowned restaurants in Spain ranging from Goizeko Kabi and the Gran Hotel in Salamanca, to respected establishments in the south of France. He has also shone on the Marbella gastronomic scene. He was working as Head Chef of Río Real Golf & Hotel Marbella when Grupo Besaya contacted him to launch Besaya Beach – a frontline beach restaurant famed for its fish and seafood delights.

Running three restaurants is no small feat. Palacio's responsibilities extend beyond the kitchen and involve

managing a large team, dealing with suppliers, and budgeting. However, management is an art he has mastered to perfection; one has the sense that Palacio is very much on top of his game. He is confident, honest, and a passionate advocate for quality. We ask him about the cuisine of each of these restaurants, and he tells us, "Besaya's cuisine is Mediterranean. We focus on freshness and exceptional produce with a touch of fusion. The aim is to offer a top-notch seaside dining experience. We serve various types of fish, seafood, and rice. The sea takes centre stage." Offerings include sea bass, cod, and market-free fish and seafood caught daily by local fishermen. "We also serve

clams, crayfish, and lobster. Of course, we also have meat dishes, including tenderloin and other cuts."

TikiTano, easily one of Marbella's most beautiful restaurants with its stunning sea views, serves cuisine that Palacio calls "somewhat similar to Besaya Beach's but with a slightly greater emphasis on smoke." Here, the magnificent Jospier grill reigns supreme, breathing appealing smoky life into the freshest fish and meat dishes. "TikiTano also hosts many business events, private parties and weddings, so we are always busy," the Chef says. Finally, Malva, the Besaya Group's newest venture, is the establishment Palacio calls his "most personal project." ›



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He elaborates, “At Malva, I play more with creativity without going past a certain point. Flavour is my number one priority.” He defines this establishment as “a modern chiringuito by the sea,” where diners can tuck into everything from freshly caught fish to prawns from Sanlúcar, red prawns from Garrucha, crayfish, and tuna from Almadra. The restaurant has an outdoor Basque-style grill where an array of meat and fish dishes are prepared.

When he’s not working, he enjoys spending quality time with his wife and daughter, mountain biking, and, of course, dining out. His favourite jaunts include Back (for fine dining), the Asador Guadalmina (for grilled dishes), and Taberna La Niña del Pisto (for tapas). In the centre of Málaga, meanwhile, he enjoys visiting Dani Carnero’s celebrated restaurant, La Cosmo. One restaurant he is excited about trying, meanwhile, is two-Michelin-starred restaurant Bardal in Ronda, headed by Benito Gómez. He knows that being a chef involves being present and finding fast solutions to challenges as they arise. Still, he possesses an enviable ability to be truly grateful for the wonderful things in his life.

| WWW.GRUPOBESAYA.COM





A magical place in the enchanting Old Town of Marbella



COMPILED BY **MARISA CUTILLAS**

©Petro Jaén



NEW SUSHI BAR AT DA BRUNO SUL MARE

Over 200 guests headed to the beloved family restaurant Da Bruno Sul Mare for the opening of its new sushi bar. The event was attended by the Mayor of Marbella, María Angeles Muñoz Uriol, members of the media, and friends of the establishment. During the event, Chef Willy impressed guests with a wide array of sushi varieties. Guests also enjoyed talks by Da Bruno team members and a live violin performance.

| WWW.DABRUNO.COM

MOSH PRESENTS *ITS BRAND NEW LOOK*

Mosh, the first restaurant launched by Grupo Mosh, is proud to show off the results of its impressive transformation, carried out under the guiding hand of Archidom Studio. While preserving its inimitable identity, the space now boasts a bold, modern twist. Its traditional New York loft-style brickwork has been replaced with wood panelling, allowing for a dynamic interplay of textures, from smooth surfaces to circular openings. The result is a warm, contemporary, character-filled ambience in which urban aesthetics merge with nature for an inviting feel. The furniture blends luxury and comfort without losing MOSH's signature boldness. Velvet adds elegance and style, while animal print accents on cushions and upholstery bring a trendy touch to the space.

| WWW.MOSHFUNKITCHEN.COM.



BACK RESTAURANT *BEAUTIFULLY REFORMED*

Michelin-starred restaurant Back is proud to announce that it has renovated its interiors, which are now more elegant and formal thanks to the creative eye of talented designer Marisa Gutiérrez. The new look is more aligned with the restaurant's Michelin star status, though it still bears a warm, approachable feel, in line with the wishes of owner Fabián Villar. The menu, which bears the name 'Entorno', is a tribute to Andalusian gastronomy. Its aim is to make diners feel like they are in Marbella and recognise Málaga in every bite. Since Back launched in 2016, around 80 per cent of its ingredients have been sourced locally, with the remaining 20 per cent offering a global touch.

WWW.BACKRESTAURANTE.COM



ONLY YOU HOTEL MÁLAGA *PRESENTS UMAMI NIGHTS*

Only YOU Hotel Málaga continues to push culinary boundaries with Umami Nights – an exclusive menu designed to transport diners straight to the heart of Asia from its Carmen restaurant. The menu, curated by Chef Pedro Hervás in collaboration with sushi man Omar Galindo, features a carefully selected range of dishes that celebrate umami, the ‘fifth taste’. Delights to watch out

for include the salmon tartare with kimchi, seaweed, ikura roe, and avocado gazpacho; the toro tiradito with a light nikiri sauce; and the ebi maguro roll with bluefin tuna, avocado, tempura shrimp, Japanese mayo, and furikake. Head bartender José Berbel has crafted two signature cocktails that pair perfectly with these treats.

| WWW.ONLYYOUHOTELS.COM





EL GAUCHO DE BANÚS *ENTERS THE SEASON WITH TOP-QUALITY MEATS AND WINES*

El Gaucho de Banús, a benchmark for quality meat dishes in Puerto Banús, has kicked off the new Spring/Summer season with a revamped menu that pays homage to Argentine tradition. The new offerings include Black Angus from Kansas, Aberdeen Angus from Ireland, and Black Ranch from Argentina. The menu also features exquisite Wagyu beef in its most coveted varieties, including certified Australian, renowned Japanese Kobe, and exclusive Spanish Santa Rosalía. The Rubia Gallega, a symbol of the Iberian cattle-raising tradition, is also prominent on the menu. The restaurant's wine list has been carefully curated with labels that have obtained the highest ratings on the Parker scale and excelled at numerous international competitions.

WWW.GAUCHOBANUS.COM



TV Celebrity Steven Saunders returned to the coast to open his new, stunning restaurant, The Geranium in October 2023. Since then, The Geranium in La Cala de Mijas has become one of the most popular restaurants on the Costa del Sol.



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MODERN WINE PRODUCTION

WORDS **ANDREW J LINN**

Today's winemakers must envy what is now viewed as the

bucolic existence of their forerunners. Life in the vineyard and the bodega was very simple during the last half of the 19th century. Possibly so routine as to be boring. In the spring the vines needed pruning, then came the emergence of the new buds, and their

subsequent flowering; then the veraison, when grapes begin to change colour and ripen, ergo red grapes shift from green to shades of red, purple, or black, while white grapes turn golden. Then the harvest, fermentation, blending, bottling, and off to market. The final chapter is a well-earned breather before going back to the vines and the cycle starts anew for their maintenance throughout the year. Happily, there are

still producers who refuse to change the way their wines are made and how they reach the consumer.

Wine, one of the world's oldest and most beloved beverages, is undergoing a quiet revolution. Climate change, shifting consumer preferences, and cutting-edge technology are transforming what we drink and how it's made. There are new rules shaping the modern wine world, affecting producers and consumers alike.



In the old days the routine never varied from one generation to the next, with the exception of increasing mechanisation of vineyard tasks and of course improved bottling methods. The phrase climate change was never heard back then. Now it is on the lips of everyone in the business. Entire vineyards are being uprooted and transferred to other zones where they get fewer sunlight hours – or more – depending on the latitudes involved. (In Spain, the nation's oldest family wine business, Torres, has relocated vines that were originally planted centuries ago to cooler zones). The most earth-shattering decisions involve the future of whole denominations. Will Bordeaux and La Rioja continue to be known by these names once wines that were for centuries produced there now come from other geographic areas? As a flight of fancy, is it too farfetched to imagine familiar names being labelled as 'Previously known as La Rioja Alta' for example? And how will the famous Champagne houses that are currently acquiring land for vineyards in the south of England be referred to? 'Pol Roger (Mendips version)'?

Sussex, Kent, Hampshire, and



Surrey are already suitable for growing vines. Somerset and Devon, along with Norfolk and Suffolk and the Cotswolds, will be fit for purpose in 30 years' time. Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Pinot Meunier have adapted well to the English climate, and many people will agree that English sparkling wine is as good as its French counterparts.

Rising global temperatures are reshaping traditional wine regions. Areas like Bordeaux and Rioja face challenges with hotter, drier summers, obliging winemakers to adapt. Some are growing heat-resistant grape varieties, while others experiment with vineyard altitudes to preserve freshness. Meanwhile, cooler climates such as England, Scandinavia, and parts of the U.S. Pacific Northwest are emerging as unexpected wine hotspots (not literally), producing world-class sparkling wines and elegant whites.

Many such emulations are being made organically,

following the general trend of the wine trade as a whole. Château Guiraud is one of the best known to have gone 100% organic, along with other top producers like Château Pontet-Canet, Château Auguste and Château Coutet. It is alleged that while younger non-drinkers have contributed to a decline in sales generally, this sector has long since preferred organic and 'natural' wines, although no-one is sure what the latter description really refers to.

In the context of what will change the face of wine production over the next few decades, AI or Climate change, the jury is still out. If we factor in additional nebulous issues like blockchain, anyone who sees the future as more of a jungle than a straight highway has already had a wake-up call. The example of the typical winemaker's pastoral existence that opened this article will be classified as bordering on the stuff of which fairy tales are devised. 

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